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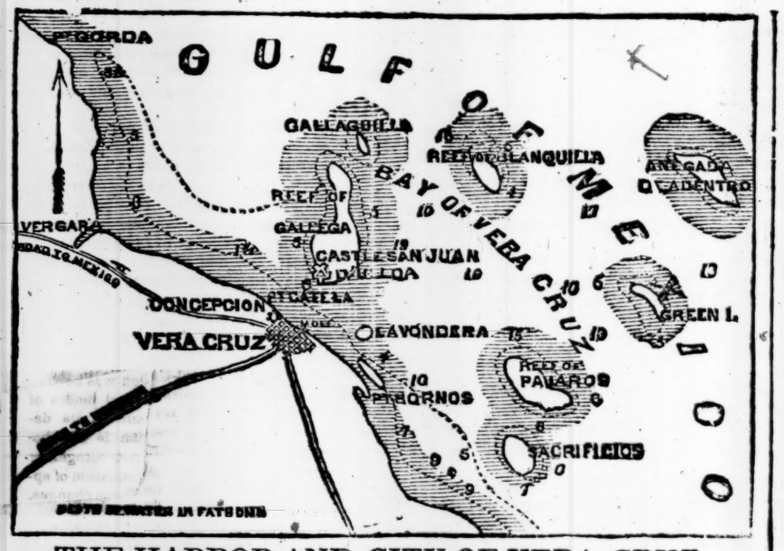
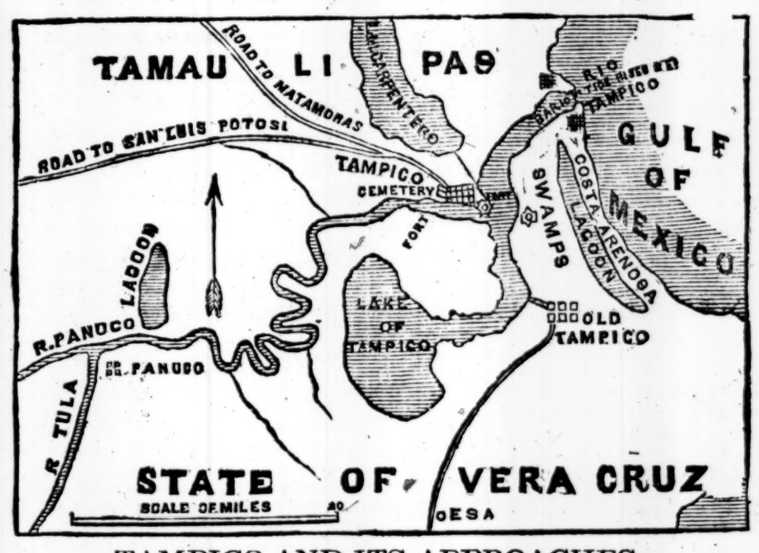
THE EXPEDITION TO MEXICO.

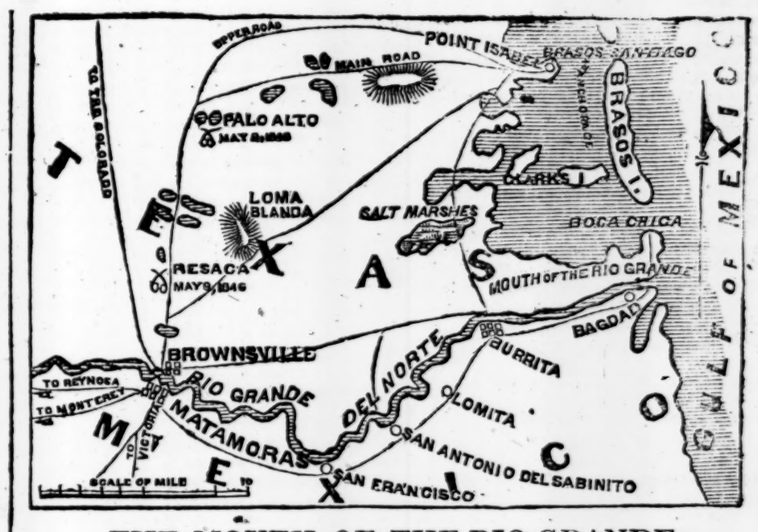
TOPOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES OF THE SEVERAL MEXICAN PORTS ON THE GULF.---MAP OF THE COUNTRY BETWEEN VERA CRUZ AND THE CAPITAL.



THE HARBOR AND CITY OF VERA CRUZ.



TAMPICO AND ITS APPROACHES.



THE MOUTH OF THE RIO GRANDE.

THE COALITION AGAINST MEXICO.

The Treaty Between England, France and Spain.

Full Particulars of the Military and Naval Forces Contributed by the Three Powers.

THE INTENDED THEATRE OF WAR.

The Country Between Vera Cruz and the City of Mexico.

Description of the Principal Ports to be Occupied by the Allies.

The theatre of exciting events is transferred for the moment from our own coast to that of Mexico. We learn from that distracted and unhappy country that the long-impending blow has at length fallen, and that Vera Cruz is now occupied by Spanish troops. By this time, probably, the British and French contingents, appointed to operate against Mexico, have joined their forces with those of Spain, and the allies have commenced to carry out the policy adopted by the three Powers in the Convention of the 31st of October last. In connection with the news received to-day, we publish a variety of important information concerning this great European coalition. The treaty signed by the representatives of France, Spain and England develops their policy in regard to Mexico, and the naval and military strength of the expedition would seem to indicate that no transient occupation of the country is intended, but an occupation to last until some form of government, more pleasing to European statesmen than a Republic, has been securely established under a European protectorate.

THE CONVENTION.

Convention between Her Majesty, the Queen of Spain, and the Emperor of the French, relative to Combined Operations against Mexico.

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Her Majesty the Queen of Spain, and His Majesty the Emperor of the French, *feeling themselves compelled, by the arbitrary and vexatious conduct of the authorities of the Republic of Mexico, to demand from those authorities more efficacious protection for the persons and properties of their subjects as well as a fulfillment of the obligations contracted toward their Majesties by the Republic of Mexico*, have agreed to conclude a convention, with a view to combine their common action, and, for this purpose, have named as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, the Right Hon. JOHN, Earl RUSSELL, Viscount Amberley of Amberley and Ardsalla, a Peer of the United Kingdom, a member of Her Britannic Majesty's Privy Council, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs;

Her Majesty the Queen of Spain, Don XAVIER DE ISTURITZ Y MONTANO, Knight of the Illustrious Order of the Golden Fleece, Grand Cross of the Royal and Distinguished Order of Charles III., of the Imperial Order of the Legion of Honor of France, of the Orders of the Conception of Villaviciosa and Christ of Portugal, Senator of the Kingdom, late President of the Council of Ministers, and First Secretary of State of Her Catholic Majesty, and her Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Her Britannic Majesty;

And His Majesty the Emperor of the French, His Excellency the Count DE FLAHAULT DE LA BILLARDERIE, Senator, General of Division, Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor, His Imperial Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary to Her Britannic Majesty;

Who, after having reciprocally communicated their respective full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:

ARTICLE I.

Her Majesty the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, Her Majesty the Queen of Spain, and His Majesty the Emperor of the French, engage to make, immediately after the signature of the present Convention, the necessary arrangements for dispatching to the coast of Mexico combined naval and military forces, the strength of which shall be determined by a further interchange of communications between their Governments, but of which *the total shall be sufficient to seize and occupy the several fortresses and military positions on the Mexican coast.*

The commanders of the allied forces shall be, moreover, authorized to *execute the other operations which may be considered, on the spot, most suitable to effect the object specified in the preamble of the present Convention*, and specifically to insure the security of foreign residents.

All the measures contemplated in this article shall be taken in the name and on account of the high contracting parties, without reference to the particular nationality of the forces employed to execute them.

ARTICLE II.

The high contracting parties engage not to seek for themselves, in the employment of the coercive measures contemplated by the present Convention, *any acquisition of territory, nor any special advantage*, and not to exercise *in the internal affairs of Mexico any influence of a nature to prejudice the right of the Mexican nation to choose and to constitute freely the form of its government.*

ARTICLE III.

A Commission, composed of three Commissioners, one to be named by each of the contracting Powers, shall be established, with full authority to determine all questions that may arise as to the application or distribution of the sums of money which may be recovered from Mexico, having regard to the respective rights of the three contracting parties.

ARTICLE IV.

The high contracting parties desiring, moreover, that the measures which they intend to adopt should not bear an exclusive character, and being aware that the Government of the United States, on its part, has, like them, claims to enforce upon the Mexican Republic, agree that immediately after the signature of the present Convention, a copy thereof shall be communicated to the Government of the United States; *that the Government shall be invited to accede to it*; and that in anticipation of that accession their respective Ministers at Washington shall be at once furnished with full powers for the purpose of concluding and signing, collectively or separately, with the plenipotentiary designated by the President of the United States, a Convention, identic, save the suppression of the present article, with that which they sign this day. But as by delaying to put into execution Articles I. and II. of the present Convention, the high contracting parties would incur a risk of failing in the object which they desire to attain, *they have agreed not to defer, with the view of obtaining the accession of the Government of the United States, the commencement of the above-mentioned operations beyond the time at which their combined forces can be assembled in the neighborhood of Vera Cruz.*

ARTICLE V.

The present Convention shall be ratified, and the ratifications thereof shall be exchanged at London within fifteen days.

In witness whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed it, and have affixed thereto the seal of their arms.

Done at London, in triplicate, the 31st day of the month of October, in the year of our Lord 1861.

(L. S.) RUSSELL.
(L. S.) XAVIER DE ISTURITZ.
(L. S.) FLAHAULT.

It is proper to add that the existence of additional secret articles, to which France and Spain are parties, to the exclusion of England, has been mentioned repeatedly in European journals, but lacks confirmation.

THE BRITISH CONTINGENT.

Commander-in-Chief—Sir ALEXANDER MILNE, K. C. B., Vice-Admiral of the Blue.

NAVAL BRANCH.

The only British vessels sent specially for service in the expedition against Mexico are the *Conqueror*, (99,) *Donegal*, (99,) *Sanspariel*, (70,) and *Phæton*, (51.) Nevertheless, the whole British squadron on the North American and West Indian station, including the vessels named, are placed under the orders of Sir ALEXANDER MILNE. The vessels under his command are as follows:

Vessels.	Officer Commanding.	No. of Guns.	No. of Men
Nile (flag-ship).....	E. K. Barnard.....	90	900
Saint George.....	F. Egerton.....	91	820
Conqueror.....	E. S. Sotheby, C. B.	99	1,000
Donegal	S. Osborne, C. B...	99	1,000
Sanspariel.....	A.P.E.Wilmot,C.B.	70	900
Phaston	E. Tatham.....	51	540
Immortalité.....	G. Hancock.....	50	570
Mersey.....	H. Caldwell, C. B..	40	594
Ariadne.....	E. W. Vansittart...	26	436
Jason.....	E. P. B. Von Donop	21	260
Cadmus.....	H. S. Hillyer, C. B.	21	270
Challenger.....	J. Kennedy, C. B...	22	260
Diadem.....	J. H. Cockburn.....	32	320
Bulldog	J. McKillop.....	6	160
Drivet	H. Nelson.....	6	165
Rinaldo.....	W. Hewett.....	17	165
Terrible.....	F. H. Glass, C. B...	21	130
Terror.....	F. Hutton.....	16	60
Racer.....	A. Lyons.....	11	120
Desperate.....	J. F. Ross.....	8	170
Barracouta.....	W. Wood.....	6	170
Hydra.....	R. V. Hamilton.....	6	180
Spiteful.....	W. C. F. Wilson...	6	170
Landrail.....	J. H. McMartin....	5	60
Nimble.....	J. D'Arcy.....	5	50
Skipjack.....	J. Murray.....	2	37
Stanly	H. D. Grant.....	5	60
Nettle.....	———	2	23
Onyx.....	———	2	23
Totals.....		836	9,623

MILITARY BRANCH.

The British send out no exclusive military branch to their Mexican expedition. The only force, in addition to the usual number of sailors and marines on board war ships consists of a detachment of royal marines (infantry and artillery) numbering some 800 officers and men. We have included these in the above table.

THE FRENCH CONTINGENT.

Commander-in-Chief, Rear Admiral JURIEN DE LA GRAVIERE.

NAVAL BRANCH.

By the last European advices we learn that all the French vessels destined for Mexico had left Toulon and Brest, and that the military portion of the expedition had embarked at Algerian ports. The *Massena*, carrying the flag of Admiral DE LA GRAVIERE, took 500 Zouaves at Oran. The following are the vessels of the French squadron:

Vessels.	Officers Commanding.	No. Guns.	No. of Men.
Massena, (flagship.)	M. Roze.....	90	913
Ardente.....	Gozolme.....	56	530
Foudre.....	Hugteau de Challie.	56	530
Guerriere.....	Selva.....	34	400
Astreé.....	Duval.....	28	380
Montezuma.....	Russel.....	16	270
Berlholiet.....	De Jonquieres.....	10	165
Lavoisier	Riiboust.	6	125
Chaptal	Lage	2	125
Marceau.....	Brust	2	75
Grenade	Hocquart.....	4	80
Aube.....	Geunet.....	4	200
Meusc	———	4	150
Sovre	Marius Ollevier ...	2	115
Totals.....		314	4058

MILITARY BRANCH.

The French military branch of the Mexican expedition consists of:

One battalion Second Regiment Zouaves.
One mounted company Second Regiment Chasseurs d'Afrique.
A detachment of artillery.
A detachment of engineers.

These troops were all taken from the army in Algeria. They were embarked in the *Aube* and *Massena* on the 19th and 20th of November, and number in all.....3,000
Add sailors and marines.....4,058
Total men.....7,058

THE SPANISH CONTINGENT.

Commander-in-Chief.—Gen. PRIM, Count de Reuss.

NAVAL BRANCH.

The first division of the Spanish fleet sailed from Havana for Vera Cruz on the 28th ult.; the second division on the 1st., and the third on the 2d inst. They have preceded the Commander-in-Chief, Gen. PRIM, who left Cadiz in the *Ulloa* on the 22d of November, and is by this time due at the Havana. The transports employed by the Spanish Government to convey troops to Mexico includes some twenty vessels. The vessels of war are armed as follows:

NAVAL BRANCH.

Commander—Admiral RUBALCABA.

Vessels.	Officers in Command.	No. Guns	No. Men.
Princesca de Asturias...	Jose Alvarado.....	50	530
Lealtad.....	Pedro del Castilla	41	500
Blanca.....	M. de la Rigada..	37	420
Berenguela.....	Jose de Arias....	37	400
Conception.....	Man. McCoohon.	37	400
Petronila.....s	R. M. Vinalet...	37	380
Isabel la Catolica, (Flag of the Admiral.).....	Carlos de Canino	20	260
Francisco de Asis, (Flag of Gen. Gassett.).....	Nicolas Chicarro	20	230
Pizarro	Pita la Vega.....	6	160
Velasco.....	Jose Corramza...	6	160
Blasco de Garay.....	Man. de Herrera.	6	160
Ferrol.....	———	4	130
Guadalquiver.....	Adolp. Navarrete	2	40
Total.....	———	303	3,750
Vessels to Arrive.			
Reina Dona Isabel II...	———	86	700
Cortes.....	———	42	480
Villa de Bilboa.....	———	30	320
Ulloa, (Flag of the Commander-in-Chief.).....	———	—	—
Totals.....		461	5,250

MILITARY BRANCH.

Commander of Land Forces—Don MANUEL GASSET.

Brigadier-General—Don CARLOS DE VARJAS.

The military branch of the Spanish expedition against Mexico consists of

Two battalions of Chasseurs.
First battalion of the Infantry Regiment "Napoles."
First Battalion of the Infantry Regiment of Cuba.
Four companies of the First battalion of "Napoles."
Four companies of the Second battalion "del Rey."
Total military force.....6,000
Add Sailors and Marines.....5,250
Total.....11,250

RECAPITULATION.

	No. Ships.	No. Guns.	No. Men.
British force.....	29	836	9,623
French force.....	14	314	7,058
Spanish force.....	13	303	11,250
Grand Totals.....	56	1,453	27,931

THE MOTIVES AND PROMISE OF THE INTERVENTION.

It thus appears that England, France and Spain have, in ninety days, fitted out against a nation and Government, which for years they have been ridiculing as constituting one of the most effete powers on earth, a combined naval and land expediiton which, in its appointment, equipment and aggregate force of guns and men, has rarely been exceeded.

The conjoint fleets of England, France, and Spain, in this expedition, number—exclusive of transports—fifty-six steam ships of war, carrying one thousand four hundred and fifty-three guns, and twenty-eight thousand sailors, marines, and soldiers. The naval part of this expedition greatly exceeds that of the great Spanish Armada. In fact, there is no comparison; the ships of war now sent against Mexico all being powerful war steamers. In our great naval expedition recently dispatched to the coasts of South Carolina and Georgia, we had but sixteen war steamers—the greater portion being small gunboats—carrying altogether less than one hundred and fifty guns. The number of men in this expedition, including sailors, marines and soldiers, was fifteen thousand.

By comparison, therefore, we are able to see that prodigious activity and energy have been displayed, and vast sums expended in getting up this great trans-Atlantic expedition against a country that has no navy—not the first apology for a ship-of-war, and no army, or what we understand constitutes an army—well-armed, equipped and drilled soldiers.

The three European Powers proclaim that, in obedience to the dictates of common humanity, they go to Mexico to collect certain moneys alleged to be due, and redress certain grievances of which complaint has been made. In the accomplishment of these purposes, the combined expedition, according to the tripartite treaty, as given above, is to "seize and occupy the several fortresses and military positions on the Mexican coast;" but, says this tripartite agreement in the article immediately following:

"The high contracting parties engage not to seek for themselves, in the employment of the coercive measures contemplated by the present Convention, *any acquisition of territory, or any special advantage, and not to exercise in the internal affairs of Mexico any influence of a nature to prejudice the right of the Mexican nation to choose and to constitute freely the form of its government.*"

The authority of the allies will not extend ten miles from the capital, or wherever else their forces may be stationed—in the interior or on the sea-board. Sonora, Sinaloa, Chihuahua, and perhaps other Northern Mexican States will be forced to break from the central Government, and either form a Confederacy by themselves, or league with the United States. A system of guerilla warfare will be organized over the whole country, and murder and robbery will run more rampant than ever. Nobody will think of sending goods to Mexico, and all regular business will be destroyed. The Allies will find that they can neither get any money, nor conquer, or establish order. By this time conflicting interests—avarice, lust, national pride, Latin and Anglo-Saxon prejudice of race—will have engendered furious passions and bitter jealousies among the Allies, and it will be extraordinary if they do not get to fighting among themselves.

All this will tend to develop to the world the deep iniquity of the scheme of the invading Powers, and their ulterior purpose to give a death-blow to the Monroe doctrine will be so apparent that when our own domestic troubles are settled, the military spirit and enterprise so fully aroused throughout the whole country, North and South, will roll over Mexico in one irresistible wave of retributive justice, and sweep every vestige of European domination from Mexican territory.

If total defeat does not attend the invading force of the Spanish Government at the commencement of its attempt to penetrate Mexico, we think what we have stated will be somewhat near the results of the expedition.

MEXICO FROM VERA CRUZ TO THE CAPITAL.

MEXICO, FROM VERA CRUZ TO THE CAPITAL.

There are two great National roads leading from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico—one, the more northern *viâ* Jalapa, and the other to the south *viâ* Orizaba. The distance by either route is about he same, say 280 miles. In other days, and in times of peace, these two roads have been great thoroughfares, both for passengers and freight. Fine stage-coaches filled with passengers, rolled rapidly on their way, and trains of freighted mules and more recently, of wagons, would be met at brief intervals, making their slow but steady progress along the entire of both routes. Brigandage has always flourished more or less on these roads. Sometimes the strong arm of power has suppressed the highwaymen, and again they would come forth, particularly in times of civil commotion, such as have prevailed for three years past, more numerous and more rapacious than ever.

There are numerous points of great interest and renown in this section of Mexico. First there is the *Puente National*, some forty miles from Vera Cruz, on the Jalapa road. Then the magnificent, snow-capped peak of Orizaba, looms up about midway between the two roads. Cerro Gordo and Perote are on the northern route. Both the great roads leading from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico are now in a very bad condition—worse than ever known before—particularly the one *viâ* Jalapa; owing, in the first place, to the tearing up of sections of the roads by one or the other belligerent parties for belligerent purposes, and in the next place to the entire neglect of all care of the roads for several years. In the steep places they are very badly washed by the heavy rains which occur periodically, and in many long stretches that have been paved the large stones used for this purpose have been torn up and cast about promiscuously or in heaps, so that it is very difficult for wheeled vehicles to pass. The allied forces invading Mexico will find it exceedingly difficult to transport artillery, munitions of war and supplies over either of the routes leading to the Mexican capital.

Some five or six years ago the Mexican Government commenced building a railroad from Vera Cruz to the City of Mexico, *viâ* Jalapa. The road was built as far as a place called San Juan, eighteen miles from Vera Cruz, and here the work ceased for the time being.

A company of private individuals then started the project of building a railroad between Vera Cruz and the Mexican Capital, *viâ* Orizaba, the more southern route. This road branches off from the one already built to San Juan at a place called Texeria, a few miles from Vera Cruz, and bears slightly to the southwest-toward Orizaba, to which place the work is under contract and actually progressing with considerable rapidity, notwithstanding the disturbed condition of the country.

There is another railroad running south from

Vera Cruz eight miles to the town of Medellin, founded by CORTEZ, and named after his birthplace in Spain.

It is a wonderful country between Vera Cruz and the City of Mexico—perhaps in its richness, variety, and beautiful grandeur, the most wonderful country in the world. A strip of some fifty miles in width, and known as the *tierre caliente*, or hot land, lies on the Gulf. Passing this, you gradually rise into the temperate climate, or *tierre templada*, though tropical productions still abound. Jalapa, on the northern road, is about eighty miles from Vera Cruz. There are no fading glories of the year—no Winter in the region of Jalapa. It is an eternal blending of Spring and Summer. At all times and seasons the peach, apricot and pear grow side by side with the orange, fig and banana. Corn and potatoes abound, and almost every kind of vegetable known in the United States flourishes. The climate is healthy in the highest degree.

Leaving Jalapa on the northern road, or Orizaba on the southern, we reach the high mountain ridge, about one hundred miles from Vera Cruz, and here are found the pine, fir and dwarf-oak. The climate is always cold, and storms of snow and sleet not unfrequently obstruct the traveler. Descending this mountain ridge, we come to the rich and beautiful table-lands which stretch far away to Puebla, where the two great roads meet, leaving but one direct route to the City of Mexico, distant from Puebla ninety miles.

Another ridge of very high mountains, where the climate is wintry, lies between Puebla and Mexico. As we begin to descend this ridge, the Mexican Valley, in all its beauty and with all its magnificent surroundings, bursts upon the view.

The District or Valley of Mexico is oval in its outline, about fifty miles long and thirty-six miles wide. It is supposed that the entire Valley of Mexico is one enormous crater of an ancient and extinct volcano, covered over by a crust of earth of recent formation. The physical features of the City of Mexico are much like those of New-Orleans.

A stranger's first impression of the Valley of Mexico as he descends the mountains and approaches the capital of the Republic beautifully located in the centre, are always those of extravagant pleasure. Skies in which are exquisitely blended the soft and brilliant, a pellucid, bland atmosphere; circling mountains rising at intervals in stupendous volume,—Popocatapel and Istaxequatel piercing the Heavens with their eternally snow-capped peaks, and overlooking a valley of surpassing beauty in its carpeting of green, its lakes and meandering streams, its villages and churches embosomed in groves and fields—all this dilates the eye of wonder, and prepares the traveler to believe in the marvelous, as he surveys the ancient home of the Montezumas.

FORTRESSES AND MILITARY POSITIONS ON THE MEXICAN COAST.

From the text of the Convention entered into between the three Powers concerning Mexico, we learn that it is the design of the Allies "*to seize and occupy the several fortresses and military positions on the Mexican coast*;" and for that purpose it is ordered that "the combined forces shall be assembled in the neighborhood of *Vera Cruz*." It is thus the eastern or Gulf shore of Mexico only on which the Allies design to operate. *There* have been fought all the foreign wars of Mexico. On that side is the bulk of the population, the principal cities and the great commercial ports; and to command the cities and commerce of the Gulf is, in the opinion of the Allies, to command the whole of Mexico.

The Mexican coast bordering on the Gulf, (including that small section on the Caribbean Sea,) has a stretch altogether of sixteen hundred miles. It is irregular, and deeply indented by numerous bays and inlets; and there are also long, narrow sand-bars and sea-islands scattered along, as is the case on the sea-coast of our Southern States.

The Gulf "fortresses and military positions" necessary for the Allies to seize are not very numerous; and as we now learn from Mexico that no serious resistance will be made to the invaders at any of these ports, the work of the Allies, so far as that part of it is concerned, will doubtless be easy enough.

There are but six Mexican ports of foreign entry on the Gulf, and it has been unofficially announced that the three main ones will be first and at once seized by the Allies. These are Vera Cruz, Tampico and Matamoras. The other three —Campeachy, Sisal, and San Juan Bantista de Tobasco—are southward of those just mentioned, and are of inferior importance. Vera Cruz, which is about midway of the Gulf coast-line of Mexican territory, is to be the main point for the Spanish operations, and it is undoubtedly the best point that could have been chosen; Tampico is situated about midway between Vera Cruz and the southern boundary of the United States; Matamoras is near the mouth of the Rio Grande, which river here forms the dividing line between the Mexican and American Republics. It will be noticed that the Allies hover as near our Southern coast as possible.

We publish the news this morning that on the 16th ult. the Spaniards, with a strong body of troops, took possession of Vera Cruz.

CITY AND HARBOR OF VERA CRUZ AND THE CASTLE OF SAN JUAN D'ULLOA.

Old Vera Cruz is a village fifteen miles northwest of the present city of Vera Cruz, and there it was that, in 1518, CORTEZ disembarked. The present city and its vicinity have been the scene of many historical incidents and exploits for the last three hundred and fifty years; and once again it is the point on which operations are to be opened that shall decide the fate of Mexico. The last time it saw the advance of a hostile force was when, fifteen years ago, Gen. SCOTT landed in full view of the city and castle, with five thousand five hundred men; and by that General the city was bombarded from the 22d to the 26th of March, when both city and castle surrendered.

Vera Cruz is the principal seaport town of Mexico, and is situated in the State of Vera Cruz, 200 miles east by southeast of the City of Mexico. It is located immediately upon the shore of the Gulf, and has a population of about fifteen thousand. It has an extensive commerce, exporting bullion, cochineal, logwood, drugs, &c., and importing woven fabrics, brandy, wines, &c. The city is regularly and well-built, but in a most unhealthy situation, surrounded by sand-hills and marshes. The vomito and other terrible diseases rage in the summer months. The houses are mostly large, flat-roofed, several stories in height, and constructed around court-yards. There are numerous domed churches, which, until lately, were very rich and powerful, and some fine public buildings. It is the best and most important port of Mexico. There is a good stone mole, but the harbor is a mere roadstead between the mainland and the island of San Juan d'Ullos, on which is situated the famous fortress. RIPLEY, in his history of the war with Mexico, thus describes the city and castle, as they appeared at that time:

"The city is surrounded on its land fronts by a continual line of fortifications, which, although neither entirely regular nor strong for defence against regular approaches, are nevertheless formidable to a direct assault. The northwestern side of the town is washed by the waters of the Gulf. At the southeastern angle on the beach is Fort San Jago, a bastion of considerable capacity, with a cavalier, mounting several heavy guns. A continued line of bastions and redans, ten in number, encircles the town, ending at Fort Conception, a bastion similar to Fort San Jago, at the most northern point, and on the shore of the Gulf. The intermediate bastions and redans are small, though solidly built, and capable of mounting from eight to ten guns each. None of the defences of the city are protected by ditches, as the heavy northers which prevail would soon fill them with the driving sand. In many places the ground is covered with a thick growth of prickly pear, in itself a serious obstacle. At the time of the American attack the garrison was of some 3,000 men, including artillery and infantry of the line, active battalions of States in the vicinity, and the National Guards of Vera Cruz."

The country about Vera Cruz is generally a level, sandy plain, bounded by sand-hills at different distances from the town. On the south and west, the first of these are at a distance of about one thousand yards. On the north, the plain extends nearly two miles, to the hamlet of Vergara. The sand-hills are of different heights, and the valleys between them are filled with thorny underbrush.

The Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa, over which the flag of the Spanish enemy has just been hoisted, is upon a reef immediately opposite, and a thousand yards from the city. The body of the work is a quadrangle of great capacity. The southern bastion has a cavalier of high command. The sea-front, which, however, looks upon the Gallega reef, is covered by a demilune, and redoubts of reëntering place of arms, and beyond these by a water-battery, extending entirely along the front. These outworks, however, as they look only seaward, give but little additional strength to the Castle, for the channels of approach to the city are either from the north or the south, and the direct fire upon them must be given from the body of the work. At this time, 128 guns were mounted upon the Castle. Most of them were heavy, and many of modern manufacture, including eight-inch sea-coast howitzers, and ten-inch Paixhan guns. Its garrison consisted of about 1,000 troops of the line. It will have been noticed, among our late Mexican news, that, in anticipation of the combined European attack, the Mexicans had concluded not to make any attempt to hold the castle or the city; but were engaged in dismantling the castle, and removing the guns into the interior, there to be used in repelling the invader, should he make further approach. The possession of Vera Cruz will give the Spaniards control of a large part of the foreign commerce of Mexico, but will not give them command of the great national roads leading to the City of the Montezumas itself.

TAMPICO.

Tampico is a small seaport town of about ten thousand inhabitants, situated in the Mexican Gulf, 215 miles north-north-west of Vera Cruz, and about the same distance south of the southern boundary of the United States. Its commerce is not very great, but the place is of importance from its position and its land and water connections. There is also located here military and naval hospitals, and well supplied markets.

During our Mexican war, SANTA ANA got news that Tampico was about to become a point of attack; and he immediately ordered its abandonment, and, having destroyed and secreted the guns and public stores in the place, the garrison retreated beyond the mountains. The town surrendered, and was at once occupied by our troops. It is likely that precisely the same thing will again happen now that the assailant is Spain. Whether the Spaniards will as honorably leave the place, as we did, when their avowed purposes are accomplished, remains to be seen. The defences of the town are light and feeble. There is one fort, but it is indefensible against any respectable force.

MATAMORAS.

The Spaniards will also, perhaps, occupy a point at the mouth of the Rio Grande, near our Texas frontier—probably the town of Matamoras. They intend by this means to accomplish a two-fold object—a warlike purpose against Mexico, and a commercial, if not warlike purpose against this country. The English, too, expect to get American cotton by way of the Rio Grande. It is believed that at the enormous price which cotton is bringing at present, it will pay to bring it across from Louisiana and the deserts of Texas to the Rio Grande, and float it down the river, or perhaps fetch it along through the coast inland water passages of Texas to the same point, where John Bull's merchantmen will be waiting to take the precious fibre aboard and where there will be plenty of John Bull's war-dogs to look after its protection. The likelihood is, however, that before this nice programme can be carried out, we will have captured some gulf islands off the Texan coast and some other points in the State, which will altogether prevent its execution. The capture of Ship Island, the other day, is another of the steps already taken in that direction.

Matamoras is a river-port town of the State of Tamaulipas, on the right bank of the Rio Grande, 40 miles from the Gulf of Mexico. Its port on the Gulf consists of two harbors, the Brazo de Santiago and the Boca del Rio, about nine miles apart, and both obstructed by bars impassable during strong winds. The town has a population of 2,000, and is well built and tolerably healthy. It is the point of export and import for the greater part of Northern Mexico. The exports consist chiefly of specie and the imports of manufactured goods from the United States and England. Gen. Taylor's brilliant operations in the vicinity of Matamoras in 1857, must be fresh in the minds of everybody.

With the possession of these three important points on the coast of Mexico, the Spaniards will have footholds from which they cancarry on whatever operations they may intend; but the seizure of these ports is the lightest part of their work in the subjugation of Mexico.

The Lines of Torres Vedras and those of the Potomac.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

In alluding to the lines of Torres Vedras in his brief letter (not a *report*,) to Gen. MCCLELLAN, asking for an appropriation of $150,000 for completing the defences of Washington, Gen. BARNARD did not probably intend to provoke a comparison as to the relative magnitude of the undertaking; but by a few words to convey to the Commanding General and to Congress an idea of the real magnitude of what had been done, and to show the large expenditure, was not without an equivalent.

Your correspondent "Z." has taken up the subject in relation to Torres Vedras, and though probably intending no disparagement to *our* works has described those of Torres Vedras in such extravagant terms as to convey the idea that those of Washington would hold no comparison with them.

Our defensive line is about thirty-five miles long, beside which there are several works which, from their retired position, properly belong to a second line. The external line of Torres Vedras was twenty-nine miles long, the second line (in its rear) was twenty-two miles long, and there were beside, the considerable works about St. Julien to protect an embarkation. There were in all 152 different field forts—in our lines, 50 or more.

But the real magnitude of the work done is best estimated by the extent of perimeter. The Torret Vedras works were very small. There were bus *three* large field forts among the whole, and neither of those was larger than several of our principal works, and not half as large as our largest. Our works are generally much larger than those of Torres Vedras, their aggregate perimeter amounting to nearly nine miles, and mounting about 500 guns; while the total perimeter of all the works at Torres Vedras was about fourteen miles, mounting 534 guns. As to number of guns, therefore, our lines are nearly equal to those of Torres Vedras. In calibre and weight of metal they are greatly superior—nearly double, in fact.

In rapidity of execution our works have greatly the advantage. The works of Torres Vedras were commenced in November, 1809 and prosecuted without interruption until the retreating army entered them Oct. 8, 1810. At this time the external line was not complete and the army continued the labor in face of the French, and after MASSENA had retired; so that it was not until the Spring of 1811 that they were completed—indeed it would appear probable that even until 1812 the work was going on. Ours were begun on May 23, and have been brought up to the condition now described as to extent and armament at the close of this year—or in about seven months.

The auxiliary works of the Torres Vedras lines, such as scarping mountain slopes, abattis, palisading, etc., etc., were doubtless very great and surpassing anything we have had occasion yet to make; but "Z" is somewhat poetic in his conception of them; the "full grown oaks and chestnuts torn up by the roots" being nothing more than olive, fir and other trees, whole, perhaps, but of dimensions to form an abattis "five six or seven feet high"—just the same as ours and much more efficient obstacles than "whole oaks or chestnuts."

The cost of our works is much less than those of Torres Vedras, which cost nearly a million of dollars—and that too with forced labor costing only about a dollar a week per man. Our works have cost thus far about $350,000, and Gen. BARNARD has asked for a further appropriation of $150,000.

The real value of these works can hardly be estimated, for they, beyond doubt, deterred an attack upon the City of Washington when, from the small numbers and disorganized condition of our troops, such an attack might have been most disastrous. They gave confidence to the residents to pursue their ordinary avocations under the very eyes of the Confederates, who from the summit of Munson's Hill could see the coveted city, while they dared not attempt to cross the barrier which lay between. In this respect, also, the parallel between them and the famous lines of Torres Vedras is close, since MASSENA approached and reconnoitered them, but did not assail.

HENRY L. ABBOT,
First Lieutenant Top. Engineers.

DEC. 26, 1861.

THE MILITARY FORCE OF GREAT BRITAIN.

The British Army—Its History, Its organization, and Its Strength.

The belligerent attitude which England has assumed toward this country since the capture of Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL and their Secretaries, renders a description of the military strength of Great Britain, at the present time, a matter of no slight interest. We therefore place before our readers some account thereof, in the preparation of which we have availed ourselves of the most recent authorities upon the subject.

HISTORY OF THE BRITISH ARMY.

Like other modern armies, that of Great Britain originated in the feudal system. When regal power, tempered by a Parliament, superseded that system, the people, according to their rank in life, were expected to provide themselves with certain kinds of weapons and defensive armor. The Justices of the Peace were empowered to see to these military duties of the people. When the nation was either actually engaged in war, or apprehensive of invasion, the Sovereign issued commissions to experienced officers, authorizing them to draw out and array the fittest men for service, in each county, and to march them to the sea coast or any part of the country known to be in most danger. In the time of HENRY VIII., Lord-Lieutenants and Deputy-Lieutenants of Counties were first appointed as standing officers for assembling and mustering the military forces. During the earlier years of the TUDORS, contracts were made by the King with the "captains," who undertook to provide, clothe and feed, so many fighting men for a given money-allowance; but the powers intrusted to the Lord-Lieutenant gradually changed this system, in relation, at least, to home defences. In the reign of CHARLES I. the important question arose, whether the King of England did or did not possess the right to maintain a military force without the express consent of Parliament; and this question was all the more bitterly discussed, when the King billeted his soldiers on the people. After the troubles of the civil wars and the Commonwealth, CHARLES II. found himself compelled to agree, on his restoration, to the abandonment of all the army, except a kind of body-guard, or household brigade of five thousand men, sanctioned by Parliament. However, in the thirteenth year of his reign, he succeeded in obtaining a statute declaratory that "the sole and supreme power, government, command and disposition of the militia, and of all forces by sea and land, and of all forts and places of strength, is the undoubted right of His Majesty; and both or either of the Houses of Parliament cannot, nor ought, to pretend to the same." Both CHARLES II. and JAMES II. found, however, to their mortification, that this statute did not in effect give them so much real military command as they had wished and intended—because the Commons, by holding the purse, virtually held the power.

It was in the time of WILLIAM and MARY that the real basis of the modern British army was laid. The declaration of rights then settled in positive terms "that the raising and keeping of a standing army in time of peace, without consent of Parliament, is contrary to law." The first mutiny act was passed in 1689, to last for six months only; but it has been annually renewed ever since, except in three particular years, and it constitutes the warrant on which the whole military system of England is exercised by the sovereign, with the consent of Parliament, and during the whole period from that date to the present time with these three exceptions, the ministers of the Crown have, every year, applied to Parliament for permission to raise a military force, and for money to defray the expenses thereof. The Sovereign can make war, and can bestow military employments and honors; but the steadiness with which the Commons have always regarded themselves as the representatives of the tax-paying nation has, in however imperfect a degree, provided a check, even in the worst of times, on the grasping by courtiers of lavish military privileges.

Though Great Britain has been generally, both at home and abroad, scorned as a great military Power, yet we find that, in 1795, the regular army, including the force under the Duke of York in North Holland, exhibited a total of 119,000 men, besides about 42,000 employed in the Colonies, in Corsica, in Gibraltar, and in India. In 1808, she possessed an army of 220,000 of the best equipped and best disciplined soldiers in the world, consisting of 30,000 cavalry, 6,000 foot guards, 170,000 infantry of the line, and 14,000 artillery. Of these, between 50,000 and 60,000 were employed in the Colonies, but the remainder were disposable for foreign service, as she had, at that time, from 80,000 to 100,000 militia, differing from the regular troops in nothing but the name, which were considered amply sufficient for home duties. If to this force we add 30,000 marines, the military strength of Great Britain was then not less than 350,000 men, exclusive of local militia and volunteers.

The strength of the British army declined from 1815 to 1835, since which last mentioned year it has undergone many augmentations. These have been occasioned partly by the contests in China, India, Kaffraria, Persia, and the Crimea, and partly by a sense of the insecurity of many of the British coasts and colonies.

PRESENT MILITARY FORCE OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.

In comparing the strength of the forces at different periods, much confusion is apt to arise from different modes of interpreting the words "British army." This designation may include the whole of the royal troops in India, whether supported out of Imperial or Indian revenues; it may also include the militia, the volunteers, the enrolled pensioners, the yeomanry cavalry, the foreign legions; or it may exclude any one or more of these. The "British army," and the "military force of the British Empire," are often treated as convertible terms—to the production of much confusion where actual numbers are given.

In a lecture delivered during the present year at the United Service Institution in London, by Capt. PETRIE, of her Majesty's Fourteenth Regiment, employed on the topographical Staff, that officer gives the following as the present sum of the British forces, and the great carefulness and research with which it has evidently been prepared is a guarantee for its accuracy:

	Men.	Horses.	Guns.
Regular troops, of all arms	218,971	30,073	366
British local & colonial troops.	18,249	—	248
Foreign and colored troops, chiefly in India	218,043	—	58
Military Police in India	79,264	—	—
Total	534,527	30,073	672
Reserves available for the defense of the Kingdom, in case of war:			
Pensioners	14,768	—	—
Militia	45,000	—	—
Yeomanry Cavalry	16,080	16,080	—
Irish Constabulary	12,392	—	—
Volunteers	140,000	—	—
Grand total	762,767	46,153	672

Of these there were, during the present year, in the United Kingdom:

	Men.	Guns.
Infantry—Guards—7 battallions	6,297	—
Infantry—Line—85 battallions	33,105	—
Cavalry—Life and Horse Guards—3 regiments	1,311	—
Cavalry—Dragoons, &c., 16 reg'ts	10,560	—
Artillery—Horse—6 batteries	1,200	36
Artillery—Field—23 batteries	5,060	138
Artillery—Garrison—39 batteries	4,680	—
Engineers	2,316	—
Military train	1,830	—
Hospital corps	609	—
Commissariat Staff corps	300	—
Totals	67,268	174

Besides, there were in the dépôt establishments:

	Men.
Infantry—Line—126 dépôts	24,770
Cavalry—9 dépôts	396
Artillery	2,975
Total in dépôts	28,141

INFANTRY.

This branch of the service is divided as follows:

Foot-Guards—1 regiment Grenadier Guards, 3 battalions; 1 regiment Coldstream Guards, 2 battalions; and 1 regiment Scotch Fusileers, 2 battalions. The first containing 32 companies, and the second and third 20 companies each; and the three regiments consisting of 6,748 soldiers, including officers and men. Each regiment is commanded by a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, with a Surgeon-Major; each battalion by a Major, with a Surgeon and his assistants; and each company by a Captain, one or more Lieutenants, and an Ensign. The officers in the Guards have higher rank and pay than other troops, (a Lieutenant in the Guards being equal to a Captain in the Army, &c.,) but their armament, &c., resembles that of the line.

Line Infantry.—1 regiment of 2 battalions of 10 companies each; 2 regiments of 2 battalions of 6 companies each; and 82 regiments of one battalion of 10 companies each. Total, 85 regiments, or 88 battalions; 87,902 men. The troops are armed with Minié rifles and bayonets. They are officered very nearly the same as the Foot Guards.

Fusileers.—1 regiment of 2 battalions of 6 companies, and 4 regiments of 1 battalion of 10 companies.

Light Infantry.—1 regiment of 2 battalions of 10 companies; and 7 regiments of 1 battalion of 10 companies.

Rifles—1 regiment of 2 battalions of 10 companies, and 1 Rifle Brigade, 3 battalions of 10 companies. Total, 13 regiments, or 20 light battalions of 19,500 men. These are officered and armed like the other regiments of the line.

Colonial Infantry.—3 West Indian regiments of 2 battalions of 6 companies; 1 St. Helena regiment of 2 battalions of 5 companies, 1 Canadian rifle corps of 6 companies, 1 Gold Coast corps of 3 companies, 1 Ceylon rifle regiment of 9 companies, 1 fencible regiment (Malta) of 6 companies, and 1 Newfoundland corps of 3 companies. Total —7 regiments and 6 companies—7,906 men. The armament is the same as the Infantry of the Line.

The regiments of the Infantry of the Line are commanded each by a Lieutenant-Colonel. The position of Colonel of a regiment is, in a great measure a sinecure, and is bestowed on old general officers; but a Colonel is not debarred commanding a regiment in the field.

The petty Staff of a battalion is composed of a Sergeant-Major, a Quartermaster-Sergeant, a Paymaster-Sergeant, an Armorer-Sergeant, a Schoolmaster-Sergeant, 10 Color-Sergeants, 30 Sergeants, a Drum-Major, and 21 drummers—in all 106 men. In the regiment on field service the proportion is augmented.

CAVALRY.

The regiments of Cavalry are distributed as follows:

Heavy Cavalry.—3 regiments of Household troops, (First and Second Life Guards, and Royal Horse Guards, blue,); 7 regiments of Heavy Dragoon Guards, and 3 Regiments of Heavy Dragoons of the line.

Light Cavalry.—Four regiments Light Dragoons; 5 regiments of Hussars, and 4 regiments of Lancers.

Total strength of cavalry 26 regiments; 12,460 men, with 9,386 horses. The Household troops have higher pay and rank than the rest.

The distinction between light and heavy cavalry consists, rather in the name and uniform, than in the size of men and horses.

The regiments have six or eight troops each formed respectively into three or four squadrons. The troop is the unit of interior service; the squadron is that of tactics.

The usual strength of a troop of the guards is 1 Captain, 1 Lieutenant, 1 cornet, 5 Sergeants, 1 trumpeter, 1 farrier, and 42 Corporals and privates; in other regiments, serving at home, the number of Corporals and privates is increased to 58. Regiments serving in India, and similar stations, have one additional Lieutenant and 70 Corporals and privates.

The regimental staff consists of one colonel one lieutenant-colonel, one major, one paymaster, one adjutant, one quartermaster, one surgeon, one assistant-surgeon, one veterinary surgeon, one sergeant-major, one chief-trumpeter, one armorer, one chief saddler, one schoolmaster-sergeant, one hospital-sergeant, one regimental clerk, and one paymaster's-clerk. Some regiments have two lieutenant-colonels and two majors.

Colonial Cavalry, Cape of Good Hope.—Twelve companies of Mounted Rifles, with 900 horses and about 1,100 men.

ARTILLERY.

The English artillery is divided into the Royal Artillery and the brigade of Royal Horse Artillery. It is also divided into field-batteries, mountain-batteries, and colonial batteries, the first two containing light and heavy guns. The field-batteries consist of five guns and one howitzer; the 18-pounder batteries, however, have three guns and one howitzer. The colonial and mountain batteries are each composed of three guns and one cohorn mortar. Each battery has a rocket detachment attached to it.

The royal artillery regiment comprises 12 battalions of 8 companies or batteries; 1 detachment of African artillery (Jamaica): 1 company of gun Lascars (Hong-Kong); 1 company of invalids. A battery is generally made up of 6 officers, 11 non-commissioned officers, 90 gunners and 10 artisans. A train comprises 1 officer, 9 to 18 non-commissioned officers, and 73 to 102 drivers. The horses required for a six-pounder light battery are 143; for a nine-pounder battery, 164; and for a twelve-pounder 198, including 8 baggage horses.

The regiment consists of 1 Colonel (Master of Ordnance); 184 staff officers; 60 Adjutants, Quartermasters, Surgeons, &c.; 448 officers, 1,152 non-commissioned officers, and 11,964 gunners and drivers. The detachment in Jamaica contains 61, the company in Hong-Kong 88, and the invalid company 145 men.

The Brigade of Horse Artillery comprises 7 companies or batteries, and 1 rocket company or battery. A battery, when on a war footing, comprises as follows: 6-pounder, 6 officers, 18 non-commissioned officers, 149 gunners, 9 artisans, and 186 horses; 9-pounder, 6 officers, 20 non-commissioned officers, 170 gunners, 11 artisans, and 220 horses. The rocket section contains 2 non-commissioned officers, 10 gunners and 10 horses.

There are also attached to the artillery a riding-house troop, comprising officers and rough-riders, a field-train department, a medical department, &c.

The total strength of the English artillery is 103 companies, or 15,122 men. In 1792, there were only 4 battalions of foot artillery of 620 men each with 1 of invalids, 483, making 3707 in all. In 1814, there were 16,157 artillery men, forming 11 battalions of 1,459 men each. In time of war the present strength would be increased to more than 24,000 men.

ENGINEERS.

This branch is divided into the Corps of Royal Engineers and the Sappers and Miners.

The Royal Engineers consist of about 280 officers, the Master-General as Colonel, six Colonels' Commandants, twelve Colonels, thirty Lieutenant-Colonels, forty-eight Captains, forty-eight Second-Captains, ninety-six First Lieutenants, thirty-six Second Lieutenants, an Inspector-General of fortifications, with a first and second assistant, and an Assistant Adjutant-General.

The Sappers and Miners comprise twenty-three companies; one Brigade-Major, one Adjutant, one Quartermaster, two hundred and forty-seven Staff-Sergeants and non-commissioned officers, sixty-four musicians, and seventeen hundred and ninety-one men. Total, 2,185 men.

PENSIONERS.

The Pensioners are composed of all those retired soldiers who may still be called on to serve; they are called out annually for fourteen days' training. The present number is 14,768 men.

MILITIA.

The full strength of the Militia, as empowered by act of Parliament at the commencement of the Crimean War, was 120,000 men—80,000 for England, 10,000 for Scotland, and 30,000 for Ireland—3,271 officers; but the total number of rank and file at the present time is not more than 45,000. The regiments are generally filled up by recruiting; but if this means fails, recourse can be had to the ballot for all between the ages of 17 and 25. The time of service lasts five years. The Militia is trained and exercised by battalions or regiments, twice in a year, for fourteen days each time, or once for twenty-eight days. The Government provides arms and uniforms, and during the period of being on duty, the militia are placed on a footing with the regular army.

The officers are appointed partly by the Secretary for the Home Department and partly by the Lord-Lieutenants of Counties. Formerly the militia could not be called upon to service abroad; but by an act passed a few years ago, they can now be taken to the colonies, &c. There are ten dock-yard battalions, formed of volunteers among the superintendents, clerks, and workmen of the naval establishments.

The militia, always regarded as a nursery of the line, has contributed large numbers of disciplined men to the ranks of the regular army; and by way of encouragement to the militia officers to induce their men to volunteer, the Government authorizes the Commander-in-Chief to confer line commissions on any militia subaltern who can bring 75 soldiers with him. During the Crimean war many officers availed themselves of this means of entering the army.

The supplementary militia is an additional body of men which was first raised in 1793, for the defence of the country at that critical period, and was subject to the same regulations as the ordinary militia. The local militia was a body raised in 1809, for the purpose of replacing in certain districts the corps of volunteers. This force was liable to be marched to any part of Great Britain, in the event of a rebellion or an invasion, and could be kept embodied till six months after the termination of the former or the repulse of the latter.

The whole amount of the regular militia forces in Great Britain alone, in 1806, exceeded 200,000 men, and with the local militia and volunteers, the number of men then capable of being assembled in arms for home service amounted to nearly 500,000.

VOLUNTEERS.

These comprise the Yeomanry Cavalry, 16,080 strong, composed principally of respectable farmers and country gentlemen, who meet for exercise in troops and regiments from seven to fourteen days in each year; the Honorable Artillery Company, which has its headquarters in the precincts of the City of London, and the recently enrolled rifle companies, which already muster not less than 140,000, and have exhibited in their late rifle practice a remarkable precision in firing. The whole of these volunteers supply their own horses and outfit.

THE INDIAN ARMY.

A large portion of the regular army is generally employed in India, and whilst there paid out of the finances of that Empire; but in addition to these forces there is also in that country the Indian army, consisting of cavalry, infantry, artillery, engineers, &c. This force was formerly termed the "Honorable East India Company's Service," and was raised and paid by that corporation; but since the recent Sepoy rebellion, it has been transferred to the Queen, and is now termed "The Queen's Army for Service in India." This army at present numbers about 200,000 rank and file. There is also the military police of India, comprising about 80,000 men.

LAND TRANSPORT CORPS AND ARMY WORKS CORPS.

Both these departments were brought into active service during the Crimean War, the former being connected with the commissariat—in fact, a kind of express corps; and the latter, composed of strong and efficient laborers, excavators, skilled artisans, and miners, rendered great service to the siege army of Sebastopol, in the construction of roads and other important works. The numbers of this latter corps in the Crimea comprised 3,500 men. It is now disbanded, but in the event of a war, a similar corps would doubtless be again called into action.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE ARMY.

The sovereign has the supreme command of the British army; but the Secretary of State for War is her responsible representative in all that concerns administration, the Commander-in-chief being her representative in matters relating to military organization and discipline. The Secretary is the organ through whom the wishes of the sovereign are reconciled with the wishes and intentions of Parliament. Until the war with Russia, in 1854, the administrative departments were much scattered, and their defective organization led in great part to the miseries suffered by the British troops in the Crimea; but now they are all consolidated under the Secretary of State for War. Previous to the time named, the War and Colonial Departments of the Government were both under the charge of one Secretary of State.

All promotions are made and all honors and rewards are conferred by the sovereign, and all commissions are under her sign manual.

The militia, yeomanry, volunteers, and pensioners are under the control of the Home Secretary who is responsible for the internal defences of the country.

England is divided into six military districts the commanders of which are usually Generals. Their functions consist in inspecting the regiments in their districts, the embarkation and debarkation of troops, the military resources of the district, the available means of defence, &c. In the same way Great Britain is divided into nine recruiting districts, with the necessary subdivisions.

COST OF THE ARMY.

The total expenditure sanctioned by Parliament may conveniently be thrown under four headings, and given in round numbers, as follows:

Military Pay and Allowances	£5,500,000
Civil Salaries and Wages	1,800,000
Stores and Works of every kind	5,400,000
Pensions, Retired Pay, &c.	2,100,000
Total	£14,800,000

or $74,000,000. This was the estimate for the last fiscal year, and is the largest sum ever voted for a *peace* establishment. As the estimates vary according to the aspects of political affairs abroad or to the strength of the economizing principle at home, the strength of the force changes proportionately, consequently the figures we have given in our account of the various branches of the service can only be considered as approximate. However, we do not imagine that they are much at variance with the actual strength of the army at the present time.

APPOINTMENT AND RETIREMENT OF OFFICERS.

The first commission of an officer in the British army and each step in promotion may be acquired by purchase, according to the rules of the service; or the appointment and promotion may be made without purchase by the Commander-in-Chief; but commissions in the artillery and the engineers, as well as in the marines and the navy, are conferred by the Ministry without purchase. Cadets who have completed a course of military education at Sandhurst are likewise appointed without purchase. The cost of a commission varies from $2,250, that of an Ensign's in the line, to $45,000 that of a Lieutenant-Colonel's in the Foot Guards. A military commission was authorized in 1854 to report upon the several modes of promotion in the army, and the result of its deliberation has been that promotion is now bestowed on account of merit, and not altogether from seniority or purchase. An examination of applicants has also been introduced. These changes, which were to a certain extent a concession to the popular demands, are calculated, more than anything else, to raise the character of the service, and to put the British army on the same footing as the armies of Continental Europe. The promotion of praiseworthy non-commissioned officers to commissions has also recently been allowed.

There are five ranks of general officers in the British service: 1. Field Marshal; 2. Generals; 3. Lieutenant-Generals; 4. Major-Generals, and 5. Brigadier-Generals.

The English army has neither an Adjutancy nor a General Staff, like the majority of European armies, as the officers appointed to such duties are taken from the regiments, in which their promotion goes on just the same.

Commissioned officers who have served certain periods receive, when reduced or off duty, what is denominated half-pay. Liberal pensions and compassionate allowances are made to the widows and families of deceased officers, and special pensions are granted in cases of death in action.

In the first few years after the peace of 1815 the reductions in the British army involved the compulsory retirement of not less than 10,000 officers, who thereupon went on half-pay; these by filling vacancies, transfers and deaths, have now been reduced to 2,000.

MILITARY SCHOOLS.

The colleges, academies and schools in Great Britain relating to military matters may be grouped into two classes, those intended to increase the military efficiency of the officers and men, and those which bear relation to the ordinary school-tuition of soldiers of the ranks and their children. The principal of those in the first group are the Royal Military College at Sandhurst, the Royal Military Academy at Woolwich, the School of Instruction at Chatham, the Department of Artillery Studies at Woolwich, the School of Artillery at Shoebury, the School of Musketry at Hythe, and the Royal Artillery Institution at Woolwich. The chief among the second group are the Royal Military Asylum, (better known as the Duke of York's School,) the regimental schools, and the garrison schools. Chelsea College or Hospital is an asylum for veterans, not a school of instruction.

RECRUITMENTS.

Formerly private persons were allowed to enlist men for the British army, in any way that they might think best. This system, however, led to the practice of impressing men into the service, and many young men were consequently entrapped, and secretly conveyed away to recruit the armies employed in the East. The discovery of this illegal and disgraceful method of obtaining soldiers was speedily followed by its abolition and the control of this branch of the service was then vested in proper military officers. In order to procure recruits, a sergeant or other non-commissioned officer mixes, in country-places and fairs, with the peasantry at their times of recreation, and in towns with artisans who happen to be unemployed, or who are dissatisfied with their condition, and, by address, in representing whatever may seem agreeable in the life of a soldier, or by the allurement of a bounty, occasionally induces such persons to enter the service.

The age at which recruits are received is from seventeen to twenty-five. During the reign of Queen ANNE it was the custom to enlist recruits for three years; but considering the time unavoidably spent in training the men, this period was deemed too short to afford the Government an advantage adequate to the expense of maintaining them; and the practice which afterward obtained of enlisting for an unlimited period was considered by Parliament to be impolitic. It was, therefore, enacted, in the tenth year of the present reign, that no person should be enlisted to serve in the infantry for a longer period than ten years, or in the cavalry, artillery, or ordnance corps, for more than twelve years. Reënlistments, however, are frequent at the end of these terms.

Ireland, comprising so much of the Celtic, and Scotland so much of the Celtic and Scandinavian population, contribute largely to the army. England, with its Anglo-Saxon and Scandinavian people, whose "home is on the deep," furnishes seamen for the navy.

The enlistment of recruits is regulated by the Mutiny Act, in which it is curious to note that it is enacted that all negroes or persons of color, although not born within the possessions of the Crown, who shall voluntarily enlist, and all negroes purchased for the Crown previous to the abolition of Slavery, and all negroes seized and condemned as prizes, under the Slave-trade acts, and appointed to serve in the army, shall, while serving be deemed to be soldiers legally enlisted, and be entitled to all the privileges of natural-born subjects. Every military officer acting contrary to the provisions of this act, in what regards enlisting recruits, is liable to be cashiered.

PROPORTION TO POPULATION, AND COST OF MAINTENANCE OF SOLDIERS.

In the middle of 1851 there were 5,610,777 men of the age of 20 and upwards in Great Britain, of whom 183,255 belonged to the army and navy—120,407 as effective force, and 62,848 on half pay, or as pensioners liable to serve under certain contingencies. The active force was 2 per cent. of the men in Great Britain, or 1 in 47, and 1 in 158

of the total population. Mr. FONBLANQUE, comparing the peace establishments of the chief European armies in 1857, found that of England to be the smallest in ratio to population, but the most costly in relation to its strength. The English ratio was 1 in 128; the French, 1 in 95; the Prussian, 1 in 80; the Russian, 1 in 72; and the Austrian, 1 in 68. English soldiers, officers and men together, cost the country $260 each per annum; French, $180; Prussian, $155; Austrian, $92; and Russian, $66. The English cost per man is still higher at the present time than it was in 1857, on account of increased attention being paid to the well-being of the soldiers.

HONORS.

Although commissioned officers who have rendered good service to their country, have been long honored with the Order of the Bath, and have been enabled to write after their names the cabalistic letters K. G. C., (Knight Grand Cross;) K. C. B., (Knight Commander;) and C. B., (Companion of the Bath;) the first two giving the title af "Sir;" still the soldier of the ranks, till lately, received noother reward than that of a silver medal to ornament the breast of his coat. Formerly no display of remarkable valor in the field insured to the private soldier a mark of royal approbation, and promotion to the rank of non-commissioned officer was perhaps the only token he received that he had earned the approval of his commanding officer. However, at the close of the Crimean War a new order was created, the "Order of Valor," having for its decoration a bronze cross, the "Victoria Cross." Every soldier, of whatever rank, may possess this cross, with an annual stipend, if he has exhibited personal gallantry in the presence of the enemy. An order of merit, applicable to general deserving, however, it is considered would be considered a desideratum.

THE BRITISH SOLDIER.

"Our nation," observes Dr. JOHNSON, "may boast, beyond any other people in the world, of a kind of epidemic bravery, diffused equally through all its ranks; we can show a peasantry of heroes, and fill our armies with clowns whose courage may vie with that of the General." But, on the other hand, it must be admitted that the condition of a private soldier in England, and throughout Europe, was formerly one not very favorable for inspiring a love of the service in his mind. Obliged to be furnished with good clothing and to preserve a becoming appearance, that which remained of his scanty pay scarcely sufficed for procuring the food necessary for his support. In his barracks he was subject to numerous petty details of duty which produced weariness and even disgust; and at all times to the restraints of discipline, which deprived him of the recreations enjoyed by other classes of men; while the barracks themselves were far from being healthy or even comfortable. These disadvantages are now, however, in a great measure removed; and the pay of the soldier suffices to afford him the means of obtaining the comforts of life in a degree at least equal to those which are enjoyed by an ordinary peasant or mechanic. With the improvement of his condition, a corresponding improvement in the character of the British soldier has taken place; men o steady habits are induced to enlist, and officers are enabled to select the best among those persons who present themselves, as recruits for the army.

The duties of the soldier are rendered as little burdensome as is consistent with the good of the service, and the regulations promulgated by the authorities prescribe that he shall at all times be treated with mildness and humanity; and the non-commissioned officers are required to use patience and forbearance in instructing the recruits in their military exercises. When breaches of discipline on the part of the soldier oblige a commander to order the infliction of punishment, attention is paid as much as possible to render it a means of promoting a reformation of character. The lash is now sparingly used. Wherever a regiment is now quartered, there is established for the soldiers a school, which the men are obliged as a part of their duty, to attend, and which is generally furnished with a library for their use. The library and school are formed and supported by the subscriptions of the officers, and both have been found to contribute greatly to the preservation of sobriety and good conduct among the men, by weaning them from the haunts of idleness and dissipation, and giving them a taste for useful knowledge.

In time of peace, the soldier, being surrounded by the members of civil society, must, like them, conform to its laws; and being under the influence of public opinion, he is, unconsciously to himself, held in obedience by them, so that no extraordinary coercion is necessary to keep him within the bounds of civil or military law. But in the colonies the soldier, even though he be serving in a time of peace, has many temptations to fall into a neglect or breach of discipline; he is far removed from the friends of his early life, who may have exercised upon his mind a moral influence for good; he sees around him only the conduct, too frequently licentious, of the lower orders of the people in the country where he is stationed; and it may be that he is not fortified with the principles which should have been implanted in his mind by a sound education. Thus in the British Colonies there arises a necessity for greater restraint on the freedom of the soldier, and for the infliction of heavier punishments, than are required in the mother country. In time of war and on foreign service, a vigorous discipline is essentially necessary; and the privations to which soldiers are then exposed, strongly induce those who are not thoroughly imbued with moral and religious principles to plunder the country people in order to supply their immediate wants, or to drown the sense of their sufferings in liquor.

THE NAVIES—AMERICAN AND BRITISH COMMERCIAL MARINE.

The Test of Naval Strength, a Commercial Marine—Relative Tonnage of the United States and Great Britain—Relative Growth—What was Done in 1812-'15—Impossibility of a British Blockade.

THE BEECHES, ——, December, 1861.

I saw, recently, an interesting article in the TIMES on the "Navies," which, I observe, has also attracted the attention of the Northern Press. In the long period of peace—which is now gone by—the people seem to have forgotten navies and their uses. One effect of this was, that the war found both people and naval officers totally unprepared for any vigorous naval effort. You want no other evidence of this than that terrible affair at Norfolk—the most disgraceful which ever occurred to us. But let that go. It has passed into history. Our business now is exactly what England's was when the Dutch Admiral, VAN TROMP, carried a broom at his masthead through the British Channel. It is to recognize: First, that we are the greatest commercial nation in the world; and second, to prepare a navy which shall correspond with that fact, and be entirely able to defend us from the insults of any European Power. By *preparing*, I do not mean merely building ships, for what use has the *North Carolina* and a dozen other great ships been to us? No; the proposition is, to be *able to build one hundred great vessels when they are needed*. In this country, with its almost illimitable commercial facilities, this is not only possible, but *ought to be done* whether war is threatened or not. But this is an episode (rather than prologue) to what I want to say.

I notice your articles on the "*Navies*" to say, that while they are statistically correct, the *inference* which common people will draw from them is not correct. The inference they will draw is: that the naval strength of Great Britain and the United States is increased by the number of vessels and guns. This, I hold, is a great mistake. The naval strength of two great nations is measured by the *measure of their commercial marines*. In other words, it is the *power to create* a navy rather than the navy in existence, which is the true test of naval power. To illustrate this, I will refer you to certain facts, which I imagine are not generally known, but which, with the vast army we have *improvised*, will show in strong colors, the growth and power of this nation. The first *fact* I refer to is, that the tonnage and commercial marine of the United States *is equal to that of Great Britain*.

In mentioning this to a very intelligent friend, he received it with incredulity—thinking me in some way under a delusion. Yet—this fact is one of those most strikingly illustrative of the singular growth and development of the United States. I will now state the amount of tonnage and navigation in Great Britain and the United States, as contained in the official reports of the two nations. The tonnage of the British Empire for three successive years (*vide* MCCULLOUGH):

	Tons.		Tons.
In 1850	4,232,962	In 1852	4,424,392
In 1851	4,362,085		

In those years the United States were (*vide* Official Reports:)

	Tons.		Tons.
In 1850	3,535,454	In 1855	5,212,001
In 1851	3,772,439	In 1858	5,049,808
In 1852	4,138,440		

In the same year, 1852, there was but little difference, but in 1858 the tonnage of the United States was 600,000 tons beyond that of Great Britain in 1852; and no doubt is beyond it now. The most remarkable feature in the comparison is, that the tonnage of Great Britain is *at a stand*, while that of the United States is constantly increasing with great rapidity.

	Tons.
United States tonnage in 1838	1,995,639
United States tonnage in 1858	5,049,808

In twenty years our commercial marine had more than doubled—an increase beyond even that of our immense strides in population. But I wish to compare the commerce of the countries in another way—the clearances from our ports in tons and men:

	Vessels.	Tons.	Men.
Cleared from G. Britain 1849	37,603	7,084,488	364,063
Cleared from U. States 1858	21,279	6,802,792	248,434

This shows that while the number of vessels is much less in the United States, the *tonnage is nearly the same*.

	Number.	Tonnage.
Built in Great Britain in 1851	1,248	275,139
Built in the United States in 1851	1,367	298,203

The *building* of vessels in the United States now exceeds that of Great Britain, as might be inferred from the fact of our rapid increase in tonnage. Taking all these facts into view, we see that from 1850 to 1860, the commercial marine of this country was equal to that of Great Britain. As for the future, no one can doubt its superiority. Perhaps this may be the reason why the haughty Britons would not be averse to a war with us now. The power of Great Britain has culminated, and the English feel an instinctive consciousness that they are no longer to be the ruling Power of the world. England wanes before the rising glory of the West, and there is an irritated jealousy toward a daughter who must soon eclipse her mother.

But, whatever England may think, it is our business to take the rank and rights which the providence of God has given. We must not quail before the frowning brow of any nation, or of all combined, in Europe.

The real fact to which I would refer is, that with such a commercial marine, and with the amplest of naval materials, *we can create a navy* when we want; and let me say that the practice of keeping an immense number of war ships on hand is better honored in the breach than in the keeping. We have now a dozen ships of the line on hand, of which we had much better have had the materials with which to build others. The great art of war, as of life, is to remember the circumstances of the times in which we live. The world does move, and we must *note how* it moves. Steam has introduced a new power into the navy, and rifled guns another. We must build ships with these new weapons, and hence it is well not to have a large navy on hand. We must build it *when it is wanted*. Let me tell you a fact of the war of 1812-15. Toward the close of the war we built a line-of-battle ship on the lakes *in six weeks*. It proved to be useless, for MCDONOUGH had captured one British fleet and PERRY another, so that the contest on the lakes was virtually ended.

The question of naval superiority between England and this country is much less determined than most persons suppose. We hear from England just now the same sort of bluster we heard fifty years ago. Let it pass for what it is worth.

It is scarcely possible that the practical statesmen of England can believe any such stuff. Some of the English newspapers talk of blowing our "little navy" out of the water; of demanding SLIDELL and MASON from the deck of a British man-of-war; of passing up the Chesapeake to Annapolis, and of blockading the whole United States. Such nonsense betrays a most lamentable ignorance of this country. If the Government properly arm Fort Calhoun, opposite Fortress Monroe, I should like to see the navy of Great Britain pass between them. Not all the navies of Europe could blockade the Atlantic, much less the Pacific coast of the United States. These people forget that times have changed—that, from 1812 to 1860, vast changes have taken place. Even in 1812-'15, we beat the British in repeated naval contests, and is it to be supposed that when we have multipled our strength fivefold, we have lost our capacity and our naval prowess? On the Pacific, we have three thousand miles of coast which no navy can blockade, and we have all the coasts of Mexico at our command, and soon we should have all the ports of South America and Russia; for the enemies of England will not stand still in such a contest. The whole commerce of Great Britain in the Pacific would be swept away. In one word, England is no longer the despot of the seas, and, sooner or later, we shall do what England did, when she destroyed the naval power of Holland.

A VETERAN OBSERVER.

FROM REBELDOM.

Affairs in the South—The Banquet of Lies—Stout Resistance of Tennesseans to the Impressment—Small Votes for Davis and Stephens—Fiendish Outrages upon Union Men and Women in West Tennessee.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

PADUCAH, Ky., Sunday, Dec. 22, 1861.

Since I have been at this place (about a week,) I have had frequent opportunities to see and converse with gentlemen just from the dominion of the rebellion. No clear idea can be formed, simply from the Southern journals which occasionally find their way through the lines, of the state of affairs existing within the bounds of the States in rebellion. Now and then a paragraph may be found, of peculiar significance, when taken in connection with reliable verbal reports which reach us; but great pains is generally taken to hide the truth from the public. The rebel leaders are afraid of their own people, and dare not allow the denizens of one county to be informed of upheavings of the spirit of patriotism and insubordination to the rule of the oligarchy, which prevails even in the next. Those who travel by railroad are closely scrutinized, and even those who pass to and fro by means of private conveyance, are liable to be overhauled and taken to some military post for examination. Known Union men are subject to frequent indignities; so that loyalists are compelled to conceal their real sentiments to secure even temporarily their personal safety.

Great stories are put in circulation almost every day of rebel victories—in many cases where no battles have been fought, and in others where the rebels have fled ignominiously from the field. The recent battle in Virginia, for instance, fought on our side by one thousand eight hundred of Gen. MILROY'S command, where the Nationals lost but about thirty killed, as many wounded, and a dozen missing, and where the rebels abandoned their fortifications in the night, burnt their camp, and left dead upon the field as many soldiers and officers of high rank as our entire list of killed and wounded, this is paraded in the rebel prints as a great victory, in which five thousand "Lincolnites" were repulsed by an inferior rebel force. The battle of Belmont, in which two thousand eight hundred and fifty men, under Gen. GRANT, routed a fully equal rebel force, burnt and destroyed their camp, captured part of their artillery and spiked the rest, and, though worsted on their retreat to their boats by large reinforcements, yet caused to the rebels a much greater loss in killed, wounded, and prisoners, than the loyal troops suffered, taking the rebels' own official statement as true; and though the rebels have not since dared to reoccupy the position, theis af fair was heralded as a great rebel victory, and is generally received as such by the Southern people. Not long since I saw, in a rebel paper, an account of the utter defeat of a regiment of Indiana troops by a regiment of Mississippians. The Indianans imprudently ventured into East Tennessee—the Mississippi men craftily retreating before them a distance of ten miles; then the Mississippians, turning upon their entrapped victims with a fury which only Southrons can exhibit, hewed them in pieces with their bowie-knives, exterminating half their number, while the forlorn remnant were scattered through the mountains. The editor assures his readers that this account comes from a very reliable source. It is needless to observe that there was no foundation whatever for the report; yet I have never been so fortunate as to lay my hand on a Southern paper in which this or any similar *canard* was corrected. Any number of reports have been put in circulation from time to time, of great rebel victories in Western Virginia, where they never gained a single success, except the surprise and rout of Col. TYLER'S Regiment at Cross Lanes. At one time Gen. ROSECRANS was reported to be utterly defeated with great slaughter. The report was duly confirmed, and extensively dwelt upon in rebel editorial comments, in which were recapitulated the great rebel pyramid of victories; and the conclusion was reached that the enfeebled and broken-down Government could not hold out much longer in its efforts to coerce the "free people" of the South. Now the report of this great victory had some foundation; for the battle was well planned by Gen. LEE, and the *marching* was pretty well done. Gen. REYNOLDS was surrounded at Cheat Mountain, and his communications cut off. The General sent out 285 men to reconnoitre in one direction; and these fell in with 2,500 Tennesseans under Cols. GEORGE MANEY, ROBERT HATTON and FORBES—the whole commanded by Gen. SAM. R. ANDERSON, of Nashville. The little reconnoitering force drove in the rebel outposts, and the whole brigade took fright and ran. A similar small body of 300 Hoosiers were advanced upon by 3,000 Virginians; but running to meet them, the degenerate sons of the Old Dominion ingloriously fled. These 5,500 troops were supported by a still larger force in their rear; but Gen. LEE concluded his men would not do to trust in battle, and so retreated; and this was the foundation of the report, duly confirmed, of a great victory. An intelligent physician from West Tennessee within the last few days, tells me that this report, and the many of a similar kind so often circulated, have never been corrected.

The more intelligent people of the South—at least, of the Union men—watch attentively for the details of these frequent victories, and for the official reports—the latter frequently full of falsehood—and if neither come to hand, they conclude the whole story is false. Occasionally, also, they get hold of extracts from Northern journals, and thereby gain glimpses of the truth. But no one dares express a doubt of the correctness of these rumors, unless coupled with the strongest expressions of hope that they prove true.

The resistance, in the State of Tennessee, to the operation of the Impressment law, has been much greater than is known to the outside world. I have not heard of any attempt having been made to enforce it at all in East Tennessee. All efforts in that section, so far as I can hear, have been directed to collecting *arms* from the people, content, it may be presumed, if that people can be rendered powerless to resist the oppressive tyranny with which they are borne down. A recent act of the legislative body of HARRIS' Government levies a fine of $25 for failure to give up to the ordnance officers a gun, and imprisonment for concealing one. Nevertheless, throughout the State guns are buried in the ground, hid in hollow logs, and under floors, to be brought to light when the time shall come to strike the tyrant. In many sections, however, the Unionists are still defiant, and openly keep their arms and refuse to obey the draft. My information on this point is positive and perfectly reliable.

A week ago a report was published in the Cincinnati *Commercial*, to the effect that on the occasion of the draft in Nashville a great riot occurred, in which four men were killed in the attempt to enforce the draft—that the mob then sought for Gov. HARRIS, who fled to Memphis, the newspapers giving out that he had repaired to that place on business. I was at first inclined to question the accuracy of this report, but I have since found for it the following corroboration: A lady of much intelligence, who has resided several years in Nashville, arrived in Louisville having left Nashville two days before the *Commercial's* informant. This lady reports that on one of the drafting days a riot occurred, in which a large number of citizens participated—that *two* men were killed—that a guard was stationed around Gov. HARRIS' room to protect him—that another guard was stationed at the house of H. L. CLAIRORNE, Colonel of the militia, for his protection—and that HARRIS left for Memphis. I rely implicitly on the veracity of this lady, and have no doubt whatever that she gives reports as they were current in Nashville when she left. She also reports that the *Daily Gazette*, an unprincipled secession paper, published in Nashville, which is ready at any time to leap upon the popular wave, had attacked the impressment law and Gov. HARRIS with exceeding bitterness. She cut out a number of its editorials on the subject, to bring through with her, but was induced to throw them away, for fear of the rebel pickets and spies. In addition to the information of this lady, a gentleman who left West Tennessee on the 19th, states that it was well understood there that an outbreak had occurred in Nashville, the particulars of which he had not learned, and that the military were called out to subdue the people. The fact that the newspapers are so silent on the subject, only shows how serious the matter is regarded. The same gentleman overheard the remark of a gentleman named ROLAC, who was on the field of Belmont after the battle, to the effect that a much larger number of Confederates were killed there than was ever reported. A Confederate Captain, standing by, reproved ROLAC, not denying the truth of his statement, but telling him he would injure "our cause." ROLAC replied that he would tell the truth about it—that the number of slain was immense.

In West Tennessee the resistance to the draft has been very determined. In Weakley (EM. ETHERIDGE'S) County, a conflict was considered imminent on a certain day. The Trenton *Standard* says the matter, however, was settled without the bloodshed which was expected. How it was settled that paper does not say. I now learn that the settlement consisted in the Secessionists withdrawing, and leaving the patriotic Union men masters of the situation. In the County of Carroll 300 Union men were in arms, at last accounts to resist the draft. Troops had been sent in to subdue the people. A fight is reported to have taken place but no result stated; and this report needs confirmation. ALVIN and ISAAC HAWKINS, two prominent politicians of that county, remain true to the Union. In Henderson County, the draft was not permitted at all by the people, in even a single civil district. A. G. SHREWSBURY, the late *unperjured* Representative from this County in the State Legislature, remains, I think, still true. In the town of Lexington, the County seat of Henderson, on the 1st of August, Hon. EM. ETHERIDGE, though an exile, and not a candidate, received more votes for Congress than both HILL and ADKINS, rebel candidates. I have not obtained the particulars of the outbreak in McNairy County, which is spoken of by the Trenton *Standard* as of greater magnitude than any other. At one time, it was reported here, that 2,000 men were in arms there for resistance. There are hardly so many men left there; but the uprising must have been very alarming to the rebels. Troops were sent into that County also, to subdue the people. This County is the home of JOHN V. WRIGHT, a rebel Colonel, who will be remembered as a secession member of the last Congress. The adjoining County of Hardin, and the next adjoining County of Wayne, are both intensely Union. W. P. KENDRICK, a prominent politician of the latter County, remains true. Since the secession of the State, he has mustered 600 men under the old flag, but I suppose he has been compelled to submit to an order for disbanding them.

The County of Weakley generally gives a vote of 2,900. In the November election, when DAVIS and STEPHENS came before the people, they received in that county about 600 votes! The result was similar in other counties. Even the strong secession County of Williamson, (so esteemed,) in Middle Tennessee, the vote was only about one-third the usual number, while in some places no polls were open at all.

I have recounted these things to show that not merely in East Tennessee, but all over the State, the Union men are not extinct. When our army shall drive out those who have overrun and subjugated that gallant people, Tennessee will promptly raise 25,000 soldiers for the cause of liberty. Great exertions have been made by the rebels to hide these facts from the country and the world. It has given out that perfect unanimity prevailed among the people of the western and middle divisions of the State. The most inhuman and revolting barbarities have been practiced upon unoffending loyal people to enforce such unanimity. Numerous instances might be related which have occurred in West Tennessee, but a few well-authenticated cases will serve to illustrate the fiendish spirit of this most causeless and hellish of all revolutions. A gentleman named JONES, residing in Henry County, Tenn., became obnoxious to the "Regulators," as a man of steadfast loyalty to his Government. He was arrested and dragged off to Union City before the military "authorities" there. No charge could be made against him for which these more responsible functionaries dared administer any punishment. These vile rulers have an indirect way of reaching a desired object, the responsibility of which they dare not publicly avow. "Regulators" and "Committees of Public Safety" exist by the connivance of the usurping rulers themselves, and are used to do the dirty work of the revolutionists, for which the "authorities" dare not openly become responsible. As no offence had been committed by Mr. JONES, he was discharged, but returned to his home in charge of his captors. These proceeded with him on the cars to a point near his residence, when they took him from the train, conveyed him a short distance into the woods, and *murdered him in cold blood!* This thing was a matter of public notoriety, yet no effort was made to punish the miscreants.

A Union man, named THOMPSON, in the same county, himself and family enjoying the highest respectability, was visited by the "Regulators"—himself abused, and his two daughters, one about sixteen and the other fourteen, taken out into his yard and outraged in the most shameful manner possible—after the manner of the Sepoys of Hindostan. In the town of Trenton, Gibson County, seventeen soldiers visited the house of a gentleman named MCLEAN, abused his family, put out the eye of a servant woman, and outraged his daughter. In the former case I cannot learn that any attempt whatever was made to bring the parties to justice. In the latter case some sham examination was entered into, but we cannot learn that any one was ever punished. Indeed I have never heard of a single instance in which these hellish depredators have been punished by the rebels.

TENNESSEAN.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

—The *Memoirs, Letters, and Remains of De Tocqueville*, translated from the French by the translator of "Napoleon's Correspondence," are published by TICKNOR & FIELDS, in two volumes. The memory of DE TOCQUEVILLE will ever be reverenced in this country, and even had the work before us no intrinsic merit, the magic of the name of the author of *Democracy in America* would secure for it an extended sale. But the work possesses an absorbing interest of its own, aside from the associations it revives. It admits us to the domestic circle, and satisfies us that the man who succeeded in exciting our admiration in his public career, is entitled to an affectionate esteem for the virtues which adorned his private life. The charming memoir of BEAUMONT presents DE TOCQUEVILLE to us in a new phase. We behold in him the industrious student, the solicitous friend, the devoted lover and the tender husband, as well as the brilliant and successful author, who attained to those honors in life which are too often reserved to be bestowed only after death. In the man we are enabled to distinguish the traits which so preëminently distinguished the writer. The same clear perceptions of duty and evident determination to adhere rigidly to the line of truth, the same charming candor and earnest good faith are visible alike in his life as in his works. The brief account which M. BEAUMONT gives us of the tour of the two friends on this Continent, when the materials for that master-work of book-making, *Democracy in America*, were collected, has for us a deep interest. The indefatigability with which DE TOCQUEVILLE pursued his labors, the industry with which he delved where a less discriminating and earnest seeker after knowledge would scarcely have dreamed of digging, the fairness with which his conclusions were formed, and the generosity which made him willing to attach a favorable construction where others would have tortured their ingenuity to produce an entirely different result, incline us to rank him as the very prince of travelers. The majority of our visitors come with a predetermination to find fault—not to point out the good that exists among us, but to search out and bring into bold relief the bad. So full are they, generally, of this mania for unfavorable mention, that even of a valley where they find abundant grapes they too often return and report nakedness and sterility. It is pleasant to travel with DE TOCQUEVILLE, who journeys in an entirely different spirit, and with whom a spirit of fair inquiry takes the place of the passion for universal condemnation which actuates the great body of travelers in foreign countries.

—TICKNOR & FIELDS also publish a *Tragedy of Errors*, by the author of "The Record of an Obscure Man." If allowed to make a suggestion, we would hint that it is altogether an error to publish a fictitious tragedy while a real one is being acted, with the whole world for its audience. Possibly the author imagines that because Slavery is the main point upon which his tragedy turns, it is therefore timely. But we fancy that in this conclusion he is mistaken. The problem is working itself out practically, and too speedily to require a theoretical elucidation. The scene of the tragedy is lain on a Southern plantation; the title hints of the plot. Free white children are sold into Slavery; infants are changed by cunning prestidigitation, at the mother's breast; general confusion ensues, and abundant agony and tears. The moral is a good one, but it is enforced at too great length. The author is evidently a gentleman and a scholar, and something of a poet withal, but he has made the action of his piece what would, in theatrical parlance, be denominated "slow." It does not keep pace with the anticipations of the reader. The accessories, too, are grounded on inconsistencies too apparent to escape observation. The common slaves of a plantation are made to talk like Boston transcendentalists—which is a great act of injustice to the former much maligned and long-suffering race. Ezekiel, a black preacher, discourses like a parson cross between the "Ecstus" and the "Lucifer" of Mr. PHILIP JAMES BAILEY. But it would be idle to expect consistency or a rigid "preservation of the unities" in a work written to elucidate either a political or a moral truth.

—A beautiful gift book will be found in *Moral Emblems*, published by the APPLETONS. It is a selection translated from the *Emblemata Moralia et Œconomica* and *Spiegel van den Voo Voorlden en Yegenwoordigen Tyt*, of that most eminent Dutchman and Poet, JACOB CATS, together with a reprint of the curious verses of his cotemporary emblematist, ROBERT FAIRLIE. The illustrations which accompany the letter-press are most ingenious in design and of rare excellence in execution. Taken all in all, quality of paper, clearness of type, beauty of binding, merit of illustration, and value of subject matter, and we have in every way, in *Moral Emblems*, one of the most desirable and valuable gift books that has been published for years.

—The HARPERS publish an admirable boy's book—*Young Ben. Franklin*, by HENRY MAYHEW. We have called it a boy's book, and the title so designates it, but many grown men might gather many very useful lessons from the story. It is told with vigor and a minuteness which never degenerates into prosiness. Moral lessons are enforced, but not in the too common teachy-preachy way. A sensible Santa Claus would at once select the book as a universal stocking-filler.

—*A Defence of Armageddon*, or our great country foretold in the Holy Scriptures, in two discourses, delivered in the Capitol of the United States, at the request of several members of Congress, on the anniversary of WASHINGTON'S birthday, 1857, by F. E. PITTS, of Nashville, Tenn., is published by J. W. BULL, of Baltimore.

—*New-York City during the American Revolution*, being a collection of original papers (now first published) from the MSS. in the possession of the Mercantile Library Association of this City, is privately printed for the Association. It contains many documents of interest, and much information that we do not remember to have met with elsewhere.

—JOSEPH DE BUKLOW publishes the Tenth Part of his *Historical Sketches of Europe*. The engravings in the number before us preserve the same force and vigor which we remarked in the first nine of the work. The accompanying letter-press is clear and concise, and amply illustrates the engravings. In turn the engravings well illustrate the letter-press.

AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

The Evacuation of Canton by the English and French—A Courteous Proclamation by the Chinese Officials—Depressing Effect of the Civil War at Home upon American Shipping—Arrival of Mr. Burlingame, &c.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

HONG KONG, Friday, Nov. 1, 1861.

On Monday, the 21st ult., the City of Canton was formally evacuated by the English and French Allied troops, who have occupied it since 1857, as a guarantee for the payment of the indemnity provided for by the Treaty of Tien-tsin. The ceremony of restoration to the Chinese authorities was conducted with much form and show, firing of salutes and mutual *fêting*.

The joint proclamation of the Viceroy, LAOU, and the Tartar General, in anticipation of this event, is remarkable for its courteous terms in regard to foreigners, being so entirely different, in this respect, from any that have preceded it. Among others, the following sentence occurs:

"During the occupation of Canton by the Allied troops of England and France, during a period of four years, their conduct has never been otherwise than friendly towards the military and people of the whole city, and ye military and people, having also corresponded with courtesy and friendship, harmony has been maintained from first to last. Now that the troops are being withdrawn, the Consuls of England and France will continue to reside within the city, while the merchants and people of all nations will constantly pass in and out, or reside therein at their pleasure. It remains the duty of yourselves, the military and people, to continue to them the same respectful and courteous relations that have prevailed during the occupation, and then perpetual amity between our respective nations will be secured. The Tartar General and Viceroy sincerely hope that henceforward, by firmly adhering to the Treaties of Peace, both Chinese and foreigners will enjoy together the blessing of prosperity and peace."

It is a source of great gratification to the Chinese that the city was surrendered to them, before the completion of payment of the indemnity.

Owing to the civil war at home and its depressing effects upon American shipping, the fine steamship *Yangtsze*, built in New-York, has been placed under the British flag. She and the British steamer *Ly-eemoon* have been the crack vessels in the China waters; both ply between this and Shanghai. With about the same speed the *Yangtsze* is decidedly the most economical boat to run, and by far the roomiest for passengers. She was recently chartered by the Hoppoo (Head of the Customs) of Canton for $10,000, to convey himself and suite of some twenty persons to Tien-tsin, to pay his respects to the new Emperor. When about twelve hours out, they encountered a very heavy gale, whereupon the poor Hoppoo's courage ebbed very fast, and he repented him of his rashness in trusting his precious person to the tender mercies to a *Fanqui* (foreign devil) conveyance. So, going to the Captain, he chin-chinned him to return to Canton. The Captain told him he was ordered to take the ship to Tien-tsin, so there he must go. The gale increased, and so did poor Hoppoo's trepidation. "Oh Captain!" he said, "my chin-chin you too muchee (I beseech you) to go back to Canton, and my pay, $10,000, all the same." The Captain, however, held on and arrived at Shanghai minus a paddle-box. The terrified Hoppoo had seen enough of that kind of thing, so there he left the ship to take on part of his suite, and himself started for Tien-tsin and Peking overland, which in the present disturbed state of the country is no slight undertaking.

Last month there was launched at Shanghai the Chinese-named steamer *Fee-haw—Anglice*, "Heavenly Bird;" built after the model of the Mississippi River boats, and for the express purpose of running in the inland and shoal waters of North China. In my last letter I mentioned the immense inland steam navigation that is opening up on the Yangtsze; this vessel will add to that already large fleet, and others are in process of building at Shanghai, where an extensive foundry has been established, capable of turning out engines or boilers of any size.

The *Fee-haw* was modeled and designed by her owner, R. S. GOUGH, Esq., late Commodore in the Chinese service, and built by Messrs. HAWKINS & Co. of the Shanghai Dry Dock, all of whom are Americans. Her dimensions are as follows:

	Feet.		Feet.
Length of keel	102	Breadth of beam	16
Length over all	112	Depth of hold	5

With all her machinery, boilers and coal bunkers filled, it is expected that her draft will be under 20 inches. Her propelling power is side-wheel, worked by horizontal high-pressure engines, each of 17-horse-power nominal, to work up to 80-horse-power.

Thus American enterprise, though under a cloud at home, is expanding itself in these distant regions, and with a few more boats of this description, will entirely outdo the present heavy-built English craft, which owing to their great draft of water, are continually getting aground on the shallow crossings with which the river abounds. The English do not appear to understand the science of river steamboat building, or else are too prejudiced to adopt our Western improvements.

With the enormous produce of the interior of China, I think it may be safely predicted that in the course of a very few years the River Yangtsze will be only inferior to the Mississippi in the amount and extent of its steamboat navigation.

The barbarous murder of Rev. Messrs. HOLMES and PARKES, American missionaries, by the rebels, near Chefoo, Gulf of Pechele, and the accounts we are receiving by every arrival from the north, of their atrocities and barbarous massacres, are arousing the greatest indignation against these fiends in human shape. How, in the face of the frightful ravages they are committing, and the sickening details almost daily laid before us, these monsters should have any advocates amongst civilized people, is marvelous. If there is any vestige of Christianity amongst them it is debased to the very lowest degree, and is certainly doing infinitely more harm than it can possibly do good by their bloody raids through the most fertile provinces of China, leaving no impression save desolation and ruin behind them.

Hon. ANSON BURLINGAME, our new Minister to China, arrived here by the last mail. If his instructions are similar to those of our previous Ministers, to sneak in the wake of other Powers, and fatten on the harvests they sow with toil, without doing any of the labor, he had better return home. This species of diplomacy is discreditable for a Power like the United States, and nothing but the enormous interests of Americans here has carried it through with the Chinese Government.

LORGNETTE.

THE LONDON TIMES LETTERS.

Correspondence of Mr. Russell from the Seat of War on the Potomac.

WASHINGTON, Friday, Nov. 29, 1861.

The North is now threatened with a civil war in which speeches and newspaper articles may lead to bloodshed, or at all events to a most serious quarrel among the Unionists. Months ago I wrote to you that the struggle was surely coming, and that there would be a contest to turn the war for the Union, or, as Earl RUSSELL said, for power—into a war for the abolition of Slavery. Read the speeches at the New-York meeting of Hon. CHARLES SUMNER and his friends—read the proceedings when the St. Louis sword was presented to FREMONT, and the testimonial addressed to him, which dedicates the weapon to his use "*in the reorganization of a great and free country*." A sword, an actual weapon of steel, to be wielded in battle for what was styled at the Cincinnati demonstration a higher standard than the "Stars and Stripes." This contest is already denominated the "Abolition war" against the Government, and it is assuming formidable proportions. The Secession organs denounce it with affected indignation, and the Government is urged to seize Mr. SUMNER, and to suppress the Anti-Slavery journals in New-York, on the ground that they are more dangerous than Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS, or the Secessionist papers which were "put down" by mob law or the United States Post-office. The Government is accused in mass meeting, amid immense cheering, of "an infamous, sneaking, crawling policy, which replaces the elective watchword sounded by FREMONT for this great nation." Assuredly, if he be thus encouraged, the General is not the man to remain quiet, or to bear his temporary disgrace with equanimity. If it were not that a great nation is suffering the throes which the eye of the most experienced statesman may mistake for those of dissolution, it would be amusing to mark the demeanor of the quacks who have brought about the terrible disorders of their unhappy patient. They are all clasping their hands together, or tearing their hair, or shaking their fists at their rivals, and crying out, "Our nostrum would have saved glorious Mr. Union! It was the horrid Abolitionists did it all! It was the trucklers to Slavery who are responsible. If GREELEY'S Bitters or the Lincoln Tonic had been used in time, he might have been saved. Oh! this faction, this terrible faction; how it has marred our worthy patron." These faction-mongers and dealers in demagogacy affect to deplore the results of their own acts. *Quis tulerit Gracchos de seditione querentes!* And such Gracchi—the most sordid, uneloquent, unlovely creatures that ever crawled through the corrupted passages of a rotten body politic—for where they touch is corruption and rottenness. Fortunately, they have not come in contact with the mass of American humanity—it is still sound and healthy; but if the locomotive crashes through the bridge, the train may follow after it.

INACTIVITY OF THE ARMY.

There is no sign of life in the army here; some movements of regiments to the other side, to be drilled in face of the enemy, and the usual "recognizances," as they are called here by some of the people. It was hoped that Gen. MCCLELLAN would win a victory for Congress, but they must "bide a wee;" in spite of the confident assertions that he was preparing for a great blow to be delivered before the Capitol threw open its gates to the Senators and Representatives of all that is left of the United States. That he can resist the pressure which is brought against him is proof that he is made of good stuff, but it is not proof that he is a General. The hand of his fate is upon Gen. MCCLELLAN, and whether it be for good or for evil the world will soon know. But assuredly the secession organ of the New-York indicates clearly, in denunciations of the Abolition rebellion of FREMONT, that civil war within a civil war which has yet to fight its battles. The Congress will meet in two days after this letter has been sent from the Capitol. Will it be unanimous in the mode of prosecuting the war? Will it be unanimous in its view of the object to be gained, and of the means of attaining it? The signs of the times are indeed ominous. *Storms and clouds and darkness sweep over Stars and Stripes, and the weary mariners cry out for some master hand at the helm, some certain port to sail for, some compass to guide them.* If the masters are incompetent the crews will rise and depose them. The armies of the North may win battles, but there is no voice loud enough to pierce through the cheers of the victors, and tell them where they must plant their eagles. And wherever they turn no friendly eye meets the glance of the great Republic in its hour of trial. Russia, indeed, may beg her to be assured that republicanism in trouble has the sympathy of despotism in trouble, but 'tis "a far cry to Loch Awe." The tone in which England is spoken of is unfriendly enough, but it would be wrong to think that the Press represents public feeling without large exceptions on that point. Still, the leaven is working; every opportunity is taken to stir it up, and actual warfare could scarcely engender more menaces and threatenings.

THE MASON AND SLIDELL AFFAIR.

The MASON & SLIDELL affair seems to be dismissed from men's minds, but they are waiting anxiously for the account of the reception of the news from England, and affect to believe it must be recived without hesitation or surprise there.

Capt. WILKES is, as I said he would be—and, indeed, not a shred of the prophetical mantle was needed to inspire the prediction—a hero at once, and the photographers are upon him. He has been receiving a dinner and making a speech, which in mercy or in justice is not reported, but it is described as rapid and compendious, and the paragraph relating to it states—mark this—that Capt. WILKES declared he would not have removed Mr. SLIDELL and Mr. MASON *if* "they could have shown a pass from the Government (perhaps Governor) General." Of what? Of Cuba or of the Confederate States? The statement is inexplicable, but if Capt. WILKES said anything of the kind, it shows clearly he felt he had no right to seize Mr. SLIDELL and Mr. MASON as common enemies, as contraband of war carriers, or as "Ambassadors;" but that he made them prisoners because they were not provided with some mysterious document or another, of which no one ever heard before. It is quite evident why Capt. WILKES is made a hero. The discharge of an ordinary well-understood duty does not entitle any man to such honors even in America. *If the act were not one of defiance and outrage, let us say not on the law

chained and ironed," or that they are used like felons. Mr. O'CONNELL had what our American friends call "a very nice time of it" in Richmond jail, and even Brig.-Gen. MEAGHER could testify that he and his fellow-prisoners were not treated with harshness or indignity in their Irish prisons by the "myrmidons" of the British Government.

Do not be in the least alarmed at the statement in one of the malignant enemies of the peaceful relations of the United States and England, that Lord LYONS has in the smallest degree violated the letter or the spirit of the most honorable neutrality. The "excited President and Cabinet," who stared over the "rebel documents" brought by a distinguished military officer from Fortress Monroe, and discovered that Lord LYONS, in his official capacity, was a mere agent for forwarding dispatches from the Confederates through British Consular agents in the South, must really feel rather ashamed of these falsehoods at their cost. As to the British Minister, it would seem that certain American journals of the type which has reduced the Cis-Atlantic press to a degree of power, lessness without a parallel, in journalism, imagine that he is a mere peg to hang scandals upon, and that he is bound to notice every lie which the poverty of intelligence or the richness of imagination of their agents may lead them to invent. There are most positive orders in the Chancellery of the Legation prohibiting the Attachés, or others, from even writing to any of our own Consuls in the South, or sending letters under any pretence to the Southern States, and the Consular agents are ordered most positively not to affix their seals to any private correspondence. One of these gentlemen, without authority, sent a few commercial letters to Lord LYONS for transmission, but the British Minister at once sent them to Mr. SEWARD, the Secretary of State, and informed him that he would have nothing to do with forwarding them. Nothing, however, can abash or shame these scandalous mythologists. Confute a hundred times, the "creature's at his dirty work again." The French Consul at New-Orleans, as I am informed, still sends commercial letters for French subjects by the cruisers, without any difficulty or restriction, and not a word is said.

THE "BLENKER" DIFFICULTY

Has not yet been arranged. This officer first came into notice here in consequence of the way in which he covered the retreat of the Federal army from Bull Run with his Germans; but he is a soldier of some experience, having served in the Bavarian army, and having been in the employment of King OTHO in Greece, where he was engaged with the disaffected tribes in the mountains, and saw active service. His soldiers have had several privileges granted to them; among others the boon of lager-beer, which is sold in their camps, but is forbidden to the less fortunate warriors of other nationalities. It is alleged against them that in consequence of this, or in compliance, perhaps, with the dictates of a more fiery patriotism than exists in the heart of the New-Englander, the Blenkerites are rather unruly, and are certainly destructive in their tastes. The way in which they dismantle a "secesh" house, tear down fences, obliterate gardens, and "chaw up" farms, is perfectly marvellous. It is not to be expected that they should understand the distinctions between Unionist and Disunionist, as they do not speak English. Every act of devastation is laid to the Blenker men. Now, license and lager beer have powerful attractions for the wilder spirits, and the result is that the German camps are favorite places of resort for those soldiers who can get there. Sometimes they do not get away so easily, nor are they always in a state to merit the approbation of their officers on their return. All the Germans desire to reach this haven of the blessed, and Gen. BLENKER has been applied to by numbers of his countrymen to procure their exchange into regiments in his division. The other day he sent a private letter intended solely for Gen. MCCLELLAN'S eye in reference to this exchange. Now, the Commander-in-Chief, whatever be his other attributes, does not possess that quality which distinguished NAPOLEON, the Duke of Wellington, or old FRITZ,—he is not famous for answering letters, nor does he, I am told, regulate his own correspondence. Perhaps he has too much of it. But, at all events General BLENKER'S letter, though specially directed to General MCCLELLAN, was not delivered to him, but was opened and read by General MARCY, the father-in-law of the General, who is Chief of the Staff, and who has the rigid notions of an old soldier respecting the rules of correspondence between the chief of an army and his subordinates. He replied to the letter in a manner which General BLENKER considered personally offensive, and a correspondence ensued in which the resignation of that officer was tendered. But the Germans were not to be deprived of their commander so easily; a ferment arose in the camps when they heard of it, and the authorities, in much doubt and difficulty, temporized with the angry Teuton, who will be followed in his retirement, if it take place, by the Prince of Salm-Salm, by Gen. STAHL, and a host of officers, and who would be followed by many more of his command if they could get $13 a month, food and clothing, as readily elsewhere. Gen. BLENKER has been disappointed by his omission from the list of officers who are to command *corps d'armée*. It has been determined, I believe, decisively to divide the Army into three corps,—one to be commanded by MCDOWELL, the others by PORTER and FRANKLIN; and, as BLENKER has been passed over, it is proposed to form a separate corps of Germans to mollify him; but serious objections exist to this course on the part of the American Generals, supported by a few of the civilians. This German element is coming to the front. As one of their leaders said to me, "We have crushed the Native American Party already; we have put it to the sword. But when the war is over we will not be content with a negative position; we must have a fair share in the country which we have fought for and saved."

THE WEATHER AND THE ARMY.

NOVEMBER 28.

If I am to judge by premonitory symptoms, there is reason to think the Federal army on the other side of the Potomac will experience some of the hardships which fell to the lot of the English army in the first, and the French army in the second, Winter in the Crimea. There was only a night's rain, and that was not very heavy, to moisten the earth, but the roads were very heavy in the bottoms and lowlands, and the ground around the cavalry camps which I passed in a ride along the lines at the other side of the Chain Bridge to-day, was already in a miserable state, sticking, in the Balaklava style, to the heels of man and horse, or trampled into a profound paste. Long trains of commissariat carts were drawn with difficulty by their nine teams over the deeply-rutted roads. But what will there be to endure when the Winter sets in with all its rigor? The snow does not lie long enough to admit of sleighing, but it falls in large quantities, and deluges of rain sometimes break the monotony of the frost.

Mr. Weed's Letters from Europe.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE OF THE EVENING JOURNAL.

LONDON, Friday, Dec. 13, 1861.

We are all waiting with breathless anxiety for the response of our Government to the demand of England, for the release of the rebel emissaries; for on that response, it is believed, the question of war or peace hangs! Solicitude occasioned by this new question, added to the anxiety which this civil war occasions, leave me with little inclination, even if I had leisure—which I have not—to enjoy London, presented, as it now is, under favorable auspices. Though really nobody, distinguished people receive me with a consideration not a little embarrassing.

Our Minister, Mr. ADAMS, with his amiable family, are exceedingly cordial in their attentions and hospitalities. Mr. ADAMS took me on Wednesday to Lord LYNDHURST, the Nestor of English jurisprudence, now midway between his ninetieth and hundredth year, with sight and hearing slightly impaired, but with his intellectual faculties in all their vigor and brightness. He is a native of Boston, born before the Revolution, and deplores the possibility of war, though he is quite sure it was wrong to take SLIDELL and MASON from under the British flag.

Sir HENRY HOLLAND, of world-wide medical fame, drops into our hotel (George-street, Hanover-square) familiarly, and is off to Windsor to see Prince ALBERT, who is seriously ill. Sir HENRY, who has been much in America, is greatly distressed at the idea of War.

Sir JOHN WILSON, Governor of Chelsea Hospital, who received five wounds in the battle of Chippewa, called upon us to-day. This veteran, who has been over sixty years in the service, contemplates a war with America with shuddering. He told me that he had acted as "second" in six duels, all of which were settled, while three in which he was unfortunately "principal" were fought. He said that difference between nations, as between officers, could generally be adjusted by the exercise of good sense and reasonable concessions on the part of those entrusted with the management of them; that the party least to blame can best afford to make conciliatory advances, and that when amicable results are reached, advances generally come from that quarter.

I went to-day, by [permission, to Pembroke Lodge, Richmond Park, the country residence of Earl RUSSELL, long so well known in America as Lord JOHN RUSSELL, with whom I had an interview of an hour, relating, of course, to our difficulties with this country. And although I am not at liberty to give to the readers of the *Journal* what was said on a question as delicate as that now pending, I may say that the visit in other respects was an interesting one, giving me, as it did, some knowledge of an ennobled and distinguished family

At the conclusion of my interview with the Earl, lunch was announced, when we met Lady and Miss RUSSELL, with two sons (boys) and a daughter of eight years. Lunch (which, as Lord BYRON said of one of Mr. ROGERS' breakfasts, "might have been a dinner") over, I took leave of the Earl, but was asked by Lady RUSSELL to look through the grounds; and after waiting a few minutes in the dining-room, her Ladyship came, in walking apparel, and gave me half an hour's ramble through grounds richer even in horticultural interest than in embellishments or in views. Though a moist day, with an atmosphere to fit, yet in the openings her Ladyship directed my attention to Hampton Court, Kew, Kingston, Windsor, &c. &c., and to those localities made classic by the residence of POPE, HORACE WALPOLE and other literary celebrities. Passing a mound which attracted my attention, her Ladyship drew me to the point from which HENRY the Eighth stood watching, through an avenue in the woods of the Park, for a signal rocket to be fired from the dome of St. Paul's Church, announcing to his wife-murdering Majesty that ANNE BOLEYN was beheaded.

To-day, in the city, I found time to indulge, for an hour, antiquarian tastes, visiting the Stone which Jack Cade struck with his pike when he imagined himself "monarch of all he surveyed;" then a fragment of a half-burned church at a point where the Great Fire in London was arrested, which stands as it then stood; then the former residences of Sir ISAAC NEWTON, of Sir JOSHUA REYNOLDS, and of HOGARTH, all in a circuit, and within a stone's throw of each other; and finally, the old and old-fashioned house in Bishopgate-street, occupied by King RICHARD the Third, now "come to base uses"—how much baser than those of its early and kingly occupant I cannot say.

There are, however, but brief intervals of relief from the anxieties which our public troubles occasion.

I was at the banking-houses of BARING BROTHERS, and GEO. PEABODY & Co., where news from America is hourly expected and tremulously looked for.

I have made acquaintance, pleasantly, with several gentlemen of the London Press, whose columns are kindly open to me, and for some of which I have written. I even ventured a letter yesterday to the *Times*, which was courteously accepted—Mr. DELANE, the editor, doing me the favor of sending a proof-slip to my lodgings.

I go to Paris this evening. T. W.

NATIONAL HONORS TO GEN. LYON.

Remarks of Mr. Pomeroy, of Kansas, in the United States Senate.

In the United States Senate, on the 20th of December, Senator WILSON reported the House resolution in honor of Gen. LYON, and it was unanimously concurred in. It is as follows:

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Congress deems it just and proper to enter upon its records a recognition of the eminent and patriotic services of the late Brig.-Gen. NATHANIEL LYON. The country to whose service he devoted his life will guard and preserve his fame as a part of his own glory. *Second*. That the thanks of Congress are hereby given to the brave officers and soldiers who, under the command of the late Gen. LYON, sustained the honor of the flag and achieved victory against overwhelming numbers at the battle of Springfield, in Missouri; and that, in order to commemorate an event so honorable to the country and to themselves, it is ordered that each regiment engaged shall be authorized to bear upon its colors the word "Springfield," embroidered in letters of gold. And the President of the United States is hereby requested to cause these resolutions to be read at the head of every regiment in the army of the United States.

Before it was adopted, Mr. POMEROY, of Kansas, said:

Mr. PRESIDENT: The resolutions which have just been read to the Senate were introduced to the House of Representatives by the distinguished member from St. Louis, and passed the House very unanimously. I trust they will in like manner pass the Senate. But to me there is one reason why they should receive at least a passing notice. The State of Kansas was largely interested in that battle at Wilson's Creek, near Springfield. And the country and mankind have a large interest in the fame of the immortal LYON, who fell in that battle. Such a man and such a General is not often found, and very rarely combined in one person. Perhaps I may be pardoned here for saying that I had the pleasure of a personal acquaintance with Gen. LYON for years; and it was an acquaintance formed and matured under the most impressive circumstances. The early struggles for the freedom of our own State were not unlike in their nature the present struggles of the nation. The same questions, to a great extent, entered into the one that now convulse the other. The same interests, passions and barbarity, so disgraceful to our age and humanity, entered as largely into that struggle as in the present.

General LYON, whose deeds and fame now belong to the whole country, was then Captain LYON, of the regular Army, stationed at Fort Riley, in Kansas. He had for ten years served the country in that capacity, and without promotion. He was as true a soldier as ever stood in the line of battle; a sagacious officer, strict in habit and discipline, and an honest man.

His attention to me on an occasion of great personal fatigue and exposure—taking me to his quarters, welcoming me to all his comforts, and then loaning me his own horse, fresh and strong, and taking in charge mine exhausted and worn, were acts of generosity and kindness that I shall never forget. The elements of a friendship cemented by a unity of sentiment and principle, in an hour of great extremity, are the most enduring attachments of this life.

As Capt. LYON, he sympathized with the free State men of Kansas, espoused their cause, and vindicated their rights in the presence of superior army officers and Government appointees, who were, even there, as false to their country, to freedom, and to God, as secession itself. He was then, as always, an earnest man, true among the false, faithful among the faithless, devotedly attached to the Union that he loved, the Constitution that he vindicated, and the flag of his country for which he died.

Comparisons are odious, and I hesitate to draw them. Still, am I set the general inactivity so prevalent on the Potomac, and so discouraging to live men, it is refreshing to notice that when the order was for Capt LYON to take and capture Gen. PRICE'S command at Camp Jackson, the ink was scarcely dry on the order before the work was accomplished.

The 10th day of May will be forever memorable in St. Louis as a day when one decisive blow, struck by one decided officer, forever freed that city from subjection to the rebellion. And there she remains today a proud monument, her edifices standing in towering magnificence, vindicating that policy, and safe amidst surrounding desolation.

One Friday morning, in June last, CLAIB. JACKSON, the so-called Governor of Missouri, issued his proclamation, declaring war against the United States forces in Missouri. That very afternoon, before the sun went down, Gen. LYON commenced moving his little army of 2,700 men upon steamboats, at St. Louis, and was soon under way for Jefferson City, the capital. On the following Sabbath evening, he took possession quietly of that capital. The rebels, Governor, and officers, and soldiers, had fled, burning bridges, and spreading destruction in their train. Before Monday morning, he commenced moving a portion of that little invincible army to Booneville, fifty miles further up, where he engaged the enemy and dispersed them, taking the city. Thus, I say, it is refreshing to see that there was one General who could move his army three hundred miles in three successive days, and have a battle and a victory! Gen. LYON moved south from Booneville toward Springfield, in the wake of the fleeing rebels, who were reinforcing into Arkansas. After several successful skirmishes about Springfield, restoring order and quiet, he halted there for reinforcements. On his way there, he was joined by one regiment from Iowa and two from Kansas.

And now may I be allowed to pause in my argument a moment to say that these two regiments were only the first generous offerings of our young State to the cause of the country? But the flower and pride of our young State were in them. These were the kind of men who spring spontaneously to their arms in an hour of danger, though we were not embraced in the Presidents proclamation for troops on the 15th of April last. They mustered in as infantry in the month of June, and were ordered immediately into Missouri. Thank God there were no wretched traitors in Kansas left unhung to rise up against their country, and to seek the overthrow of the Government. So our troops were ordered into Missouri—many of them without one day's notice. The first day's march of one regiment was forty-five miles in twenty-two successive hours, without baggage-wagons or ambulances. And before they could be provided with clothing or shoes, they were ordered onward and still onward into Missouri; and when they had joined Gen. LYON at Springfield they had marched over three hundred miles; and one of the regiments had only seven baggage-wagons! A part of the Kansas and Iowa regiment, under an order from Gen. SIGEL, were marched in two days from Springfield to Forsythe, sixty miles, and had a battle; and after dispersing the rebels, returned to Springfield in two and a half days; and during this unparalleled marching, over two hundred of these brave men were entirely destitute of shoes.

But the memorable day about which cluster all the interests of that Southwestern campaign was the 10th day of August, 1861. Upon the evening of the 9th, as darkness quietly settled down into the valleys, and light lingered blushingly upon the hill-tops, this little army of five and a half thousand men set out to meet twenty-five thousand and engage them in conflict. They marched by two different routes all night, and at daybreak came upon the enemy, encamped upon Wilson Creek. Immediately, without waiting on points of etiquette, Gen. LYON formed the line of battle. And here began, at 5 o'clock in the morning, the conflict of arms—more terrible and destructive, according to numbers, than ever engaged men on this continent before. From the beginning to the close, for six and a-half hours, the firing was incessant and terrific. At 10½ o'clock the man of all men there—the General of all Generals in this war—fell at the head of one of our regiments, leading them gloriously onward to victory. He placed himself there in a moment, in response to the call of these men as unconquerable as himself. Gen. LYON had before, that day, been twice wounded, and had one horse shot under him. He resisted all entreaties for refreshments, willing to hazard everything himself, anxious only for his men and their cause. He neither faltered or complained, until the fatal shaft entered the life fountain, and "the golden bowl was broken." He thus sunk quietly to rest, amidst the din of battle and the smoke of the contest—the WARREN of this war. The battle went on, though its leader had fallen. Few of either officers or men knew what had occurred. The enemy being repulsed, returned with fresh regiments, again and again, but returned only to retreat in confusion, leaving their trail strewn with the fallen. Our troops advanced and took possession of the field. The rebels, in fear, now burned their own baggage-wagons. Volumes of smoke rolled up from every side of the battle-field, and concentrating above them, hung the heavens in a drapery of mourning. The rebels were receding, and the firing ceased altogether.

* * * * * * *

Thus ended the 10th day of August, 1861; evening shadows, cooling the heat of both sun and fire; our troops marched regularly to camp. And I now say, in contradiction to much that has been written and said, that that battle was a triumph. It was a costly one; nevertheless, a victory. What other battle-field was ever won more triumphantly? I do not allow the fact that there were not reinforcements on hand sufficient to hold that whole country, to detract from the brilliant triumph of our arms that day. It was a battle of five thousand five hundred men against twenty-five thousand; and a victory of the few over the many; showing again that

"Thrice armed is he who hath his quarrel just."

The hero of that battle sleeps beside other graves, in his dear native valley. He has been literally "gathered to his fathers." There need be no monument of marble or granite for him. All the way from St. Louis to Connecticut his remains were honored by tributes of respect from a grateful people. I had the melancholy pleasure of seeing the almost spontaneous gathering of his old friends at Hartford. They honored suitably the noble dead. In that they honored themselves. From Hartford to Eastford, where he now sleeps, the way was all marked by tokens that were becoming to a returning conqueror. The dear old people at home have garnered up his memory; it shall be to them as endearing as liberty and life.

Stevens' Submarine Battery—A Proposed Practical Trial.

HOBOKEN, Dec. 19, 1861.

To the Board Appointed to Examine the Stevens Battery:

GENTLEMEN: Since I last addressed you, the news from England renders the condition of the country even more critical than it was then, and, as I believe the present defences of this harbor not sufficient to stop the approach of an English mail-clad fleet to the City of New-York, I have deemed it a duty I owe the country (now that the veil of secrecy has been removed from the battery) to do all in my power to call the attention of the authorities to the urgent necessity for her early completion.

Influenced by these views, I have determined to make the following experiments, and it will give me much pleasure if your Board will be present to witness them. I propose also to invite the Secretaries of the Navy, War and Treasury, the Committees on Naval and Military Affairs of the Senate and House, the Governors of New-York and New-Jersey, the Mayors of the Cities of New-York, Brooklyn, Jersey City and Hoboken, and other persons having official charge of the public interests, connected with this subject. I propose to try:

1. The power of the battery to resist shot and shell, by firing with the largest cannon, from a ship or fort, on a floating target, representing a section of the side of the vessel.

2. By taking up the recoil of the cannon by India rubber springs, thus showing the practicability of the proposed mode of mounting the guns, and that they will always instantly return to the same point after being fired.

3. To show the effect, by firing large guns over a deck, at the distance the guns of the battery are proposed to be placed from her deck.

4. The ease and expedition with which large guns can be loaded and managed by steam power.

5. The facility with which the battery can be lowered and raised on the water, by means of letting in and pumping out the sea water from tanks.

6. The facility with which the battery can be steered and managed, with the ability of turning rapidly upon her centre (without going ahead,) by means of her two propellers. These two last experiments I propose to demonstrate by the gunboat *Naugatuck*, now fitting up by me for the Government, which will be brought here for that purpose.

I intended to have demonstrated by experiment that a large gun, properly protected, will resist the effect of shot, but the difficulty of obtaining a proper gun on a sufficiently early day will prevent this. I propose to add this to the other experiments at the earliest possible period.

The proposed experiments will, I think, demonstrate the practicability of the united principles of the battery, so, I trust, as to satisfy you in these particulars. I cannot now say on what day I shall be prepared to try these experiments, but think I can be ready before New-Year's day, and will notify you some days in advance.

Since writing the above, I have received your favor of the 18th inst., and will, with pleasure, accept your invitation to meet you at the Lyceum, on Friday, the 20th inst., at 11 A. M.

Yours, respectfully, E. A. STEVENS.

PROPOSALS.

TREASURY DEPARTMENT, OFFICE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD, Dec. 6, 1861.

SEALED PROPOSALS WILL BE RECEIVED at this office until 10 o'clock P. M. on MONDAY, the 6th day of January, 1862, for supplying the Light-house Establishment with seventy thousand gallons of the best quality, pure, Winter-strained Sperm Oil, to be divided into three lots, and to be delivered at the times undermentioned, alongside the Government supply-vessels, or at the warehouse or other place of deposit, to be designated by the Inspecting Officer or other authorized agent of the Light-house Board, in strong, tight, well-made casks, suitable for shipping, in good order, of an average capacity, each of from eighty to one hundred gallons.

Either or all of them may be delivered at New-York, New-London, Sag Harbor, Boston, New-Bedford, Edgartown, or Nantucket, at the option of the bidders. The place of delivery must be distinctly stated in the bids, and will be embraced in the contracts.

The three lots will be delivered as follows, viz:

Lot No. 1, (23,000) twenty-three thousand gallons on the 1st day of April, 1862, or as soon thereafter as the proper tests and gauging can be completed.

Lot No. 2, (32,000) thirty-two thousand gallons on the 1st day of June, 1862, or as soon thereafter as the proper tests and gauging can be completed.

Lot No. 3, (15,000) fifteen thousand gallons on the 1st day of October, 1862, or as soon thereafter as the proper tests and gauging can be completed.

No part of the oil proposed for and to be embraced in the contracts under this advertisement will be accepted, received, or paid for, until it shall have been proved to the entire satisfaction of the person or persons charged with its examination, test, and inspection, to be the best quality pure Winter strained or bagged sperm oil, free from mixture with other or inferior oils and adulterations, and that it will remain in a sufficiently fluid state for free burning in lamps at a temperature of 32° or lower of Fahrenheit's standard thermometer.

The usual means for determining the character and quality of the oil will be employed, viz: for specific gravity, by burning to determine the length of time the oil will burn in untrimmed capillary or jacket lamps, the amount of residuum in each lamp after it burns out, and, if necessary, any proper tests to arrive at correct conclusions that may be deemed necessary.

The casks must be gauged, under the direction and personal supervision of the inspecting officer, by a custom-house or other legally authorized and sworn gauger, according to the United States standard, and must be marked and accepted before they are removed from the cellar or warehouse of the contractor.

Proposals will be received and considered for each lot separately, or for all of them, at the option of the bidder; but no bid will be considered for a less quantity than that specified as one lot, to be delivered at one time and place. Each bid must state explicitly the rate per gallon, in writing, the number of lot or lots bid for, and the time and place of delivery, conforming to this advertisement.

Bids submitted by different members of the same firm or countership will not be considered.

The Light-house Board, under the authority of the Department, reserves the right to reject any bid, although it may be the lowest, for other considerations than the price.

No bid will be considered for any other kind or description of oil than that specifically called for in this advertisement.

A bond, with security to the satisfaction of the Department, in a penalty equal to one-fifth of the amount of each contract made under these proposals, will be required of each contractor, conditioned for the faithful performance of the contract, to be executed within ten days after the acceptance of the bid.

Every offer must be accompanied by a written guarantee, signed by one or more responsible persons, and known to the Department as such, or certified by a United States District Judge, Attorney, Navy Agent, or Collector of the United States, to the effect that, if the bid or bids be accepted, the bidder or bidders will duly execute a contract in good faith, according to the provisions and terms of this advertisement, within ten days after acceptance; and that in case the said party or parties offering shall fail to enter into the contract as aforesaid, he or they guarantee to make good the difference between the offer of the said party or parties and the next lowest bidder. All bids must be sealed and indorsed "Proposals for oil for light-houses," and then placed in another envelope, and directed, prepaid, to the Secretary of the Light-house Board, Washington City.

All bids will be opened, publicly, at the hour and on the day specified.

Payments will be made for the several lots of oil within thirty days after they shall have been received by the United States.

By order of the Light-house Board.

THORNTON A. JENKINS, Secretary.

FORM OF OFFER.

I, (or we,) ——, of ——, State of ——, hereby offer and agree to furnish and deliver at ——, agreeably to the provisions, and in conformity to the terms, of the advertisement of the ——, from the office of the Lighthouse Board. Should —— offer or bid be accepted, —— request to be informed at ——, and that the contract may be forwarded to ——, for signature and certificate. (Signature.)

(Place.)
(Date.)

FORM OF GUARANTEE.

We, the undersigned, residents of ——, in the State of ——, hereby jointly and severally covenant with the United States, and guaranty that in case the foregoing ——, of ——, be accepted, —— will, within ten days after the acceptance of said ——, execute a contract for the same, with good and sufficient sureties, to deliver the —— of oil proposed, in conformity to the terms of the advertisement hereto appended, under which it was made. And in case the said —— shall fail to enter into a contract as aforesaid, we guaranty to make good the difference between the offer of the said —— and the next lowest bidder.

Witness:

} Sureties.

(Place.)
(Date.)

I hereby certify, that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the above named guarantors are good and sufficient. (Signature.)

(Place.)
(Date.)

LEGAL NOTICES.

IN PURSUANCE OF AN ORDER OF THE Surrogate of the County of New-York, notice is hereby given to all persons having claims against CHARLOTTE FULLER, late of the City of New-York, deceased, to present the same with vouchers thereof to the subscriber, at his office, No. 7 Beekman-st., in the City of New-York, on or before the 3d day of March next.—Dated, New-York, the 28th day of August, 1861.

PHILIP MILLSPAUGH, Executor.
au30-lawcmF

MACHINERY, &C.

STEAM ENGINES.—A LARGE ASSORTMENT on stock, from 5 to 100 horse-power. Also portables of various sizes, and finest quality, for sale at our works a Paterson, N. J., or at depôt and store No. 13 Dey-st, New-York. Also flax, hemp, and rope machinery made to order. TODD & RAFFERTY.

STEAMBOATS.

TO NEW-HAVEN.—STEAMERS LEAVE AT 3 P. M. Passengers going further take the train from there at 11 P. M., or remain on board till morning.

FINANCIAL.

ST. LOUIS, ALTON AND CHICAGO RAILROAD.

RECEIVER'S OFFICE, CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 27, 1861.

Holders of certificates of a loan made to the undersigned by the bondholders of the Chicago, Alton and St. Louis Railroad Company, are hereby requested to present the same to Messrs. MORAN BROTHERS, of New-York, on or after the 15th of January next, and receive the interest due thereon for the year 1861.

JAMES ROBB, Receiver.

GOVERNMENT CLAIMS ADJUSTED.

Claims upon the War and Navy Departments; the Treasury; Pension, Land and Census Bureaux; and the accounts of Army, Navy and Mail Contractors adjusted in person by our resident agent in Washington,

Hon. HORATIO KING,

late Postmaster-General of the United States.

JOHN B. MURRAY, Army and Navy Banker,
No. 39 Nassau-st., opposite the Post-office.

Claims are made up and forwarded to Washington daily.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO.,
NO. 50 WALL-ST.,
ISSUE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELLERS' CREDITS FOR USE IN THIS COUNTRY AND ABROAD

CONTRACTORS' BILLS

For Army and Navy supplies collected cheaply and expeditiously, or purchased on favorable terms, by
LIVERMORE, CLEWS & MASON,
Nos. 41 and 43 Wall-st., New-York

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY.—NEW-YORK, Dec. 5, 1861.—At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD COMPANY, held at their Office in New-York this day, it was

Resolved, That an assessment of FIVE DOLLARS per share upon the Scrip Shares of the Capital Stock of the Company, be and the same is hereby called payable on the twentieth day of January, 1862; and that the same be payable on the Stock registered in the City of New-York at the Office of the Company in that City; and on the Stock registered in London, at the Office of Messrs ROBERT BENSON & Co., London; and that parties desiring to pay their assessment in London, may pay the same at a rate of exchange sufficient to produce five dollars per share to the Company in the City of New-York.

Resolved, That the transfer books be closed on the afternoon of the 15th January next, and reopened on the 20th day of the same month; and that no transfer be permitted on or after that day of shares upon which the foregoing assessment shall not have been paid.

THOMAS E. WALKER, Treasurer.

The eighty-dollar certificates to be returned on payment of the above.

WINSLOW, LANIER & CO., WILL PAY, on and after 2nd January, interest on the following securities:

Indiana State Bank Bonds, issue of $1,390,000, 5 per cent.
Ross County, Ohio, 7 per cent.
City of Chillicothe, Ohio, 7 per cent.
City of Marietta, Ohio, 7 per cent.
Washington County, Ohio, 7 per cent.
Town of Harmar, Ohio, 7 per cent.
Indiana Central Railroad Company's First and Second Mortgage Bonds.
Indianapolis and Bellefontaine Railroad Company's 7 per cent. First Mortgage Bonds.

The State of Indiana has placed money in the hands of Winslow, Lanier & Co., to pay the January interest on her 2½ and 5 per cent. stocks, on the checks of the agent of State, at No. 36 Wall-st.

DUNCAN SHERMAN & CO. WILL PAY the following coupons due Jan. 1, 1862:

Chicago City.
Chicago City Water Loan.
Buffalo City.
Albany City.
Utica City.
Buffalo and State Line Railroad.
Detroit and Pontiac Railroad.
Atlantic and Great Western Railway, guaranteed by the Bank of London.
Detroit and Milwaukee Railroad.
Also,
Interest on New-York State Stock.
5½ per cent. Loan to Tonawanda Railroad.
6 per cent Loan to Schenectady and Troy Railroad.

NOTICE.—THE BANK OF MONTREAL HAVING established an agency at Chicago, is prepared to do a general Banking business, and, in connection therewith, will attend to the collection of commercial paper in all accessible points throughout the West. Collections in interior points will be at the risk of owners, care being used in selecting the most reliable medium.

CHICAGO, Oct. 10, 1861. E. W. WILLARD, Agent.

Referring to the above, we are prepared to draw, purchase and collect upon Chicago on favorable terms.

We also purchase and collect upon the Canadas, and issue drafts and credits upon the various branches of the Bank of Montreal and the Union Bank of London.

RICHARD BELL and A. OGILVIE,
No. 32 Pine-st.,
Agents for the Bank of Montreal, New-York.

CLEVELAND, COLUMBUS AND CINCINNATI RAILROAD COMPANY, CLEVELAND, Dec. 16, 1861.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKholders of this Company will be held at the Office of the Company, in Cleveland, Ohio, on WEDNESDAY, January 8, 1862, for the election of eleven Directors, and for the transaction of important business relating to the purchase of that part of the Springfield, Mount Vernon and Pittsburgh Railroad lying between Delaware, Ohio, and Springfield, Ohio, and other business. The transfer books will be closed on the 24th inst, and remain closed until the 9th January next. By order of the Board of Directors.

GEORGE H. RUSSELL, Secretary.

MARINERS' SAVINGS INSTITUTION, No. 130 AV., (Opposite the Cooper Institute), Dec. 28, 1861.

INTEREST ON DEPOSITS AT THE RATE of SIX PER CENT. per annum on sums of $50 and under, and at FIVE PER CENT. on sums over $500, will be payable on and after the 20th January.

Dividends not drawn will bear interest from 1st Jan., same as a deposit.

BANK OPEN DAILY from 9 A. M. to 2 P. M., and on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY from 5 to 8 P. M.

THOMAS B. STILLMAN, President.
ISAAC T. SMITH, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE ILLINOIS CENTRAL RAILROAD CO., NEW-YORK, Oct. 29, 1861.

HOLDERS OF THE STOCK OF THIS company, as registered upon the books of the company at the close of business on the 15th day of January, 1862, will be entitled to Canceled Bonds Scrip for five dollars upon each share of stock held by them deliverable on or after the 1st day of February next. And parties holding certificates are hereby notified to have the same registered in their own names on or before the said 15th day of January.

THOMAS E. WALKER, Treasurer.

IRVING SAVINGS INSTITUTION—NO. 96 WARREN-ST.—Interest allowed at the rate of 6 per cent. on sums from $1 to $500, and 5 per cent. on sums over that amount. Open daily, from 10 A. M. to 2 P. M. Also on Monday, Thursday and Saturday evenings, from 4 to 7 P. M.

JOHN CASTREE, President.
WILLIAM M. PULLIS, } Vice-Presidents.
SYLVANUS S. WARD, }
VANDERBILT L. BUXTON, Secretary.

BUTCHERS' AND DROVERS' BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 30, 1861.

NOTICE.—THE ANNUAL ELECTION FOR eleven Directors of this Bank, and for three inspectors of the ensuing election, will be held at the Banking House, on TUESDAY, the 14th day of January next. The poll will open at 1 o'clock and close at 2 P. M. By order of the Board.

R. P. PERRIN, Cashier.

MARINERS' SAVINGS BANK, NO. 1 Mead-av., opposite the Cooper Institute. Deposits made on or before the fifth of January will bear interest from the 1st of January.

BANK OPEN DAILY from 9 to 2 P. M. and on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY EVENINGS from 5 to 8 o'clock. THOS. B. STILLMAN, President.
ISAAC T. SMITH, Secretary.

MECHANICS' AND TRADERS' BANK, No 157 BOWERY, NEW-YORK, Dec. 25, 1861.

AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS OF this institution, for the ensuing year, and for three Inspectors for the next ensuing election, will be held at the Banking house, on WEDNESDAY, Jan. 8, 1862. Polls will be open from 2 to 3 o'clock P. M.

GEO. W. YOUK, Cashier.

MARKET BANK, NEW-YORK, Dec. 30, 1861.

AN ELECTION FOR DIRECTORS OF this Bank for the ensuing year, and for three inspectors of election, will be held at the Banking House, on MONDAY, the 13th day of January next, between the hours of 12 and 1 o'clock. The transfer books will be closed until that date. R. BAYLES, Cashier.

MERCHANTS' BANK, NEW-YORK.—THE Stockholders of this institution are hereby notified that an election for directors for the ensuing year and for inspectors of the then next election will be held in the Banking-house on TUESDAY, the 14th day of January next, between 12 and 1 o'clock.

J. D. VERMILYE, Cashier.

NEW-YORK & HARLEM RAILROAD COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, CORNER 4TH-AV. AND 26TH-ST., NEW-YORK, Dec. 27, 1861.

INTEREST COUPONS OF THE THIRD Mortgage Bonds, Bonds of 1852, and Sinking Fund Bonds, will be paid on and after Jan. 1 at the Treasurer's Office. W. H. EMERSON, Treasurer.

ROSEBILL SAVINGS BANK, CORNER of 14th-st. and 8th-av., open daily from 1 to 5 P. M. Wednesdays and Saturdays until 7 P. M. Six per cent. interest on all sums of $500 and under. Deposits made on or before Jan. 10 draw interest from the 1st.

THOS. CHRISTY, President.
RICH. H. BELL, Secretary.

AN ELECTION OF FIVE TRUSTEES OF the NEW-YORK BALANCE DOCK COMPANY will be held at the office of the Company, No. 12 Wall-st., in the City of New-York, between the hours of 12 M. and 1 P. M., on the second WEDNESDAY of January next.—Dated NEW-YORK, Dec. 28, 1861.

JAS. B. NICHOLSON, Secretary

LONG ISLAND RAILROAD COMPANY.—INTEREST ON BONDS.—The coupons due Jan. 1, 1862, on the mortgage bonds of this Company, will be paid after that day at the Bank of the State of New-York, New-York. WM. S. S. RUSSELL, Treasurer.

HUNTER'S POINT, Dec. 28, 1861.

DUBUQUE AND SIOUX CITY RAILROAD COMPANY.—An election for five Directors of said Company will be held at the Company's office, in Dubuque, on MONDAY, Feb. 10, 1862.

JAMES M. MCKINLEY, Secretary.

COLLECTIONS IN WASHINGTON, D. C.—Claims on any of the Departments, Quartermasters' accounts, and Notes payable in Washington, D. C., collected with promptness and on reasonable terms by RIGGS & CO., No. 56 Wall-st.

SACRAMENTO VALLEY RAILROAD COMPANY.—The Coupons due 1st of January, 1862, on $400,000 first mortgage bonds of that Company will be paid after that day at the office of SCHUCHARDT & GEBHARD.

NOTICE.—THE COUPONS ON SECOND MORTgage Bonds of the Chicago, Iowa and Nebraska Railroad, due January 1, will be paid at Webster Bank or at my office, No. 114 State-st. Boston, Dec. 30, 1861.

CHAS. A. LAMBARD, Treasurer.

STATE OF MICHIGAN INTEREST.—THE Interest due on Michigan State Bonds, 1st January, 1862, will be paid after that date at the Metropolitan Bank, by JOHN OWEN, Treasurer.

THE COUPONS OF THE PICKAWAY County (Ohio) Bonds, due Jan. 1, 1862, will be paid at the Park Bank after that date. M. BROWN, Agent.

FINANCIAL.

ATLANTIC SAVINGS BANK,
CHATHAM-SQUARE,
OPEN DAILY.

DEPOSITS MADE ON OR BEFORE JAN 20, WILL RECEIVE INTEREST (SIX PER CENT.) AS FROM THE 1ST.

This Bank has received, during the past year, (a time of commercial and industrial depression), $46,571 67-100 more than it has paid out.

MOSES D. VAN PELT, President.
CHARLES D. BAILEY, Treas

Supplement to The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, JANUARY 3, 1862.

IMPORTANT FROM WASHINGTON.

How New-Year's Day was Observed at the National Capital.

Visit of the Entire Diplomatic Corps to the President and Secretary Seward.

THE WAYS AND MEANS OF THE WAR.

A New Tariff and Tax Bill in Course of Preparation.

A Proposed Tax on Telegraphic Dispatches.

MOVEMENTS OF THE REBELS.

Advance of Their Scouts Towards the National Lines.

Unfounded Rumors Relative to Gen. McClellan's Health.

Another Rebel Battery Down the Potomac.

OUR SPECIAL WASHINGTON DISPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 1.

NEW YEAR'S DAY AT THE CAPITAL.

At the President's reception to-day was the greatest jam ever witnessed on any similar occasion. Several hours before the time appointed for the opening of the gates, the avenue and sidewalks about them were so crowded as to render all access nearly impossible.

Between the hours of 10 and 12 o'clock, Lord LYONS and suite, and the other Foreign Ministers and their suites, as well as many Government officers having the right of private *entrée*, made calls upon the President. The President was also waited upon by a deputation of the City Police, composed of six members from each District.

At 12 o'clock precisely, the gates were thrown open to the public, and the immense multitude made a simultaneous rush for the reception room. Everybody wanted to be first, so everybody ran, and pushed, and scrambled, more like a mob bent on plunder than an assemblage of respectable citizens calling to pay their respects to the Chief Magistrate of the nation.

A line of policemen were drawn up on each side of the entrance from the carriage-way to the reception room, and between these the anxious concourse were compelled to pass, and by this means a partial degree of decorum was maintained, and a complete crash avoided.

In the reception room, with the President, were Mrs. LINCOLN, Marshal LAMON, the President's Private Secretaries, and Capt. DARLING, Chief of the Capitol Police.

After paying the customary respect to the President and his lady, the dense and rapidly-moving throng passed out through one of the large windows in the hall, and thence across a carpeted platform to the sidewalk.

The Marine Band was present, and lent additional life to a scene already lively, by the magnificent performance of our own and other national and patriotic airs.

The scene within was in remarkable contrast to that without. No sooner was the reception-room gained, than those who outside had been hurrying and pushing along immediately subsided into a quiet and respectful deportment.

The new and splendid carpets which adorn the floor were neatly covered with a tasteful cloth to protect them from injury.

A striking feature of the scene was the great number of gay uniforms visible—Generals, Colonels and Majors were plenty as blackberries, while Captains and Lieutenants were multitudinous. If our soldiers prove as useful as they are ornamental, nothing more could be desired of them.

By a little after 2 o'clock the crowd had disappeared, the doors were closed, and President LINCOLN's first grand New-Year's Day reception was ended.

During the morning, the various Foreign Ministers, including Lord LYONS, called on the Secretary of State, and throughout the day army and navy officers, volunteers as well as regulars, called on the Secretaries of War and the Navy.

Mayor WALLACH kept open house, and received calls from many distinguished personages.

The whole city was gay and festive, and war and politics seemed for the time forgotten. The day was unusually beautiful, the sky being clear and bright, and the air soft and balmy, more like May than January. It has been long since such a New Year's Day was seen in this latitude.

Perfect order was maintained throughout the city, not a drunken or turbulent person being seen on the streets.

Among the crowd at the President's Mansion, and of marked prominence, was Major W. F. M. ARNY, successor of KIT CARSON, United States Indian Agent in New-Mexico. He wore a full suit of buckskin, made in Mexican style, and elegantly embroidered with beads. He privately presented to Mrs. LINCOLN a splendid blanket, as a New Year's offering. It is an evidence of the taste and skill of the Rocky Mountain Indians. This blanket was made by a squaw of a Navajo chief, she having been employed upon it for five months. It is of large size, of wool, the figures upon it being of white, red and blue.

INDIANS IN NEW-MEXICO.

Major ARNY says there are about ten thousand Navajoes in New-Mexico, who own, with the Mexicans in the Territory, probably a million of sheep, which are used principally for food; the animals remain unshorn of the wool, which would make good blankets and clothing for our troops.

THE MILITARY.

Col. R. H. RUSH's Regiment of Lancers paraded the Avenue to-day, presenting a brilliant appearance.

THE DAY AMONG THE SOLDIERS.

All the troops on the Virginia side at 8 this morning were making extensive preparations for enjoying New-Year's Day. The programmes were varied theatrical representations, and pig-races, in some localities, being prominent "in the bills." A ride of 30 miles afforded no more interesting items than these. The occasional firing of guns, were but incidents of the jubilation.

THE REPORTED DEATH OF GEN. M'CLELLAN A SHAMEFUL HOAX.

We are happy to say that at no time has Gen. McCLELLAN been dangerously ill. He is rapidly recovering from a severe cold taken at Gen. PORTER'S last review. He is attending to all important business, and will be out in a few days.

PROMOTIONS.

The following are the promotions in the Third Pennsylvania Cavalry Regiment, as ordered to-day: Lieut. Snead, Company A, to a Captaincy in the same company; Lieut. Gregg, Company G, to First Lieutenant; Private Rogers, Company B, to Second Lieutenancy Company C; Sergeant Walsh, Company I, to a Captaincy; Lieut. Ellis, Company C, to First Lieutenancy Company D; Lieut. Martin, Company D, formerly of the President's Mounted Guard, Captain of Company K; Sergeant Fitzgerald, Company B, to First Lieutenancy Company K; Lieut. Russell, Company E, to a Captaincy; Commissary Englebert to a Lieutenancy in Company E; Lieut. Bramrix, Company C, to Captaincy Company M. These were promotions to fill vacancies from causes of resignation. Col. AVERY'S Third Pennsylvania, and Col. CHARMAN'S Eighth Pennsylvania, are included in the Cavalry Brigade commanded by the former officers.

THE BANDS.

An order has been issued, prohibiting any bands in the service of the United States from going out on serenading parties, unless by previous permission of the Provost-Marshal. There has, it appears been an excess of such music at night, in many cases being more of an annoyance than a compliment to distinguished gentlemen, whom it was proposed thus to honor.

GEN. SCOTT.

Lieut.-Gen. Scott does not design an early visit to Washington.

FINANCIAL.

The Treasury is paying off its own notes, furnishing only small amounts of specie for purposes of change.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Jan. 2.

UNFOUNDED RUMORS.

It was yesterday reported that Gen. McCALL had been killed in a skirmish, the innocent firing of guns the night previous being the only foundation for the rumor.

Perhaps the reports prevailing in distant cities, and about which questions by telegraph are asked to-day, of the death of Gen. McCLELLAN, result from a partial similarity of names.

The response to a specific inquiry in the proper quarters, this morning, warrants the assertion that at no time recently has Gen. McCLELLAN been dangerously ill; that he has nearly recovered from his indisposition; that he is attending to important business connected with the army, and that he expects to engage in out-door business in the course of a few days.

Small cliques in town have been busy in naming successors for the Commanding General.

REBEL SCOUTS.

Rebel scouts came, yesterday, some eighty rods this side of Fairfax Court-house, on the Little River turnpike, and on the Falls Church road came within half a mile of our pickets, and watched them closely. Squads of their cavalry occupy the hills surrounding Fairfax, a large force is two miles beyond, and eight regiments are at Flint Hill.

FROM THE LOWER POTOMAC.

The *Stepping Stones* came up from the flotilla last night. This steamer, on her reconnoitering trip up Occoquan Bay, lately, scattered the rebels with three well-directed shots from her 24-pounder rifled gun, the shells bursting in the midst of rebel soldiers. But on her return she was followed by riflemen, who, concealed behind trees, fired several bullets through her sides. One of these shots passed through the head of the Captain's berth.

The new rebel battery is on "Possum Nose," this side of Colkpit Point, and is therefore the nearest battery to this City. At least one heavy rifled gun is planted there, as shells have been fired into the mouth of Mattawoman Creek.

THE NEW EXPEDITION.

Gen. BURNSIDE and Commodore GOLDSBOROUGH are here to-day.

THE ARRIVAL OF GEN. PATTERSON.

Gen. PATTERSON arrived to-night, undoubtedly to appear before the Joint Committee of Congress who are investigating the conduct of the war. The disaster of Bull Run has always been ascribed to two causes—the appearance of JOHNSON'S reinforcements on the field, and the loss of GRIFFIN'S Battery. Gen. PATTERSON has been held responsible for the one, and Capt. GRIFFIN'S report made his explanation of the other—how justly, the country will soon know.

THE THIRD FIFTY MILLION LOAN.

The failure of the Banks to take the third fifty million of the public loan does not surprise the Government. It would have afforded only temporary relief, and is no part of a general system to meet the expenses of the war.

WAYS AND MEANS.

The Sub-Committee of Ways and Means are maturing a general tax and tariff bill, to meet the necessities of Government under the present failure of loans. Of course the public revenue must be immensely increased, and the people must be prepared to feel the real burdens of war.

A TELEGRAPHIC TAX.

A tax of five cents on each telegraphic message is one of the methods proposed for increasing the public revenue.

COL. MILES' CASE.

Hons. REVERDY JOHNSON and R. H. GILLET have reviewed the proceedings of the Court of Inquiry in the case of Col. MILES, accused of drunkenness at Bull Run. They close thus: "We are of opinion that, if this evidence had been before an intelligent jury, their verdict would have been that he was innocent of the charge of drunkenness, and that he was fully competent for the command which had been assigned to him." The finding of the Court in this case has generally been condemned as singular and contradictory. While declaring that there was no evidence upon which Col. MILES could be convicted of drunkenness, they nevertheless speak very freely of "the guilt of his condition." There was certainly much conflict of testimony in the case, but Messrs. JOHNSON and GILLET say that "much the larger number of witnesses sworn testified unqualifiedly in his favor, and they had far the best opportunities for knowing the truth." The eminent character of Messrs. JOHNSON and GILLET will give their analysis of this case much weight and influence in the relief of Col. MILES.

GEN. BENHAM.

Gen. BENHAM has been released from arrest, and is ordered to report himself for duty at once. The Court of Inquiry ignored the charges against him as soon as they were read.

GEN. LANE'S DEPARTMENT.

Col. WILSON'S regiment of Mechanic Fusiliers have been ordered to report to Gen. LANE, at Fort Leavenworth. The line officers will be selected from the States from which each company hails.

THE LIGHT-HOUSE BOARD,

Through its Secretary, Mr. JENKINS, gives evidence of its vitality, by advertising for a supply of seventy thousand gallons of the best quality pure winter-strained sperm oil, for the use of the establishment.

THE SUTLERS.

Senator WILSON to-day introduced into the Senate his proposed new law for the regulation of sutlers for the volunteer force, &c. It was referred to the Military Affairs Committee, of which Mr. W. is the Chairman. As the bill now stands it makes the four inspector-generals of the army a board to determine what articles sutlers may sell to officers and soldiers. It makes the Brigadier-General, Brigade Quartermaster, Commissary, and Surgeon a board to fix the prices which the sutler's of the brigade shall charge for those articles. This board are to report the prices so fixed to the General of Division, and when he approves them, they shall stand, unless the Inspector-General of the Army, upon examining them, disapproves them. It further provides that, on its passage, all the commissioned officers of each volunteer regiment shall assemble and choose a sutler—the present one, if they see fit to select him, or any other person. The election is to be reported to the Adjutant General of the army, and if the person be not disapproved by the Secretary of War, the election is to stand. If the sutler so chosen sells articles not specified in the list, or at prices above those fixed, he shall forfeit his berth, and shall forfeit all his goods in the camp, one-half to the United States and the other half to the informer against him; and he shall further be ineligible thereafter to hold a sutlership.

LIEUT.-COL. KANE.

Lieut.-Col. KANE has so far recovered from the wound received at the Dranesville fight as to be again on duty. The wound on his face will not disfigure him. A slight scar on als upper lip only will be visible.

DRANESVILLE NOT OCCUPIED.

Dranesville is not occupied by either National or rebel troops. The pickets of both armies occasionally visit the scene of the fight. It is now ascertained that Private GOFF, of the Bucktails, whose body was recovered the day after the fight, was killed before the battle, no part of which took place on or near the field where his body was found.

ARMY TELEGRAPHS.

The Army Telegraph Corps have returned from Hancock, having completed telegraphic connection between Frederick and Wheeling. They will next proceed to Budd's Ferry, and extend the telegraph line from thence to Point Lookout. A cable will be run from there to Fortress Monroe.

NEUTRAL RIGHTS.

The subject of neutral rights will soon be brought before Congress by the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, who have called on the Government for all correspondence touching this subject. They desire to have general principles settled while the subject is fresh before the nations.

THE CAPACITY OF OFFICERS.

The Senate have just received a confidential printed document affecting fourteen hundred names of officers before them for confirmation. Friends of the parties are here, anxious for the Senate's decision. It is thought that a great many will fail to pass the ordeal.

THE HEALTH OF THE ARMY.

Official information received at the Surgeon-General's office, from camps containing one hundred and eighteen thousand soldiers of the army of the Potomac, show less mortality than among any similar body of men in any city in the Union. The sickness is proportionally small.

A HEAVY CONTRACT.

The fact announced in the Philadelphia papers, today, that a Mr. HILL, of that city, has obtained a contract for furnishing over sixteen thousand dollars worth of forage for the army, is exciting special wonder.

NAVAL EXAMINERS.

Capts. SHUBRICK and WILKES, and Naval Constructor COOK compose the Board, recently appointed by the Secretary of the Navy, to examine and report upon certain inventions which promise usefulness in that branch of the service.

AN INVESTIGATION.

It is reported that the continuous firing throughout Tuesday night, by our troops in Virginia, is to be a subject of formal investigation.

NO QUORUM.

A quorum of members was not present in either House of Congress to-day.

ANOTHER BIG GUN.

Another hundred-and-fifty-pound gun has been finished at the Navy-yard, and was tested to-day, with favorable result.

THE KERRIGAN TRIAL.

The trial of Col. KERRIGAN will be resumed to-morrow. It is true, as reported in the TIMES, that his parole has been extended indefinitely, the other New-York papers to the contrary notwithstanding.

STOCKTON'S CLAIM.

The General Land Office has issued a patent for the private claim in California known as "Potiers de Santa Clara," finally confirmed to ROBERT F. STOCKTON. This claim lies southeast from San Francisco, between the Gaudaloupe River and the Alameda, or public road from Santa Clara to San José, in townships 6 and 7 south range 1 west, and township 7, south of range 1, east of Mt. Diable. The claim contains 1,939 3-100 acres.

PUBLIC OFFICES REMOVED.

The offices of Surgeon-General and Paymaster-General have been removed to the corner of F and Fifteenth street, the rear of the block on which Willard's Hotel stands.

CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS.

SENATE.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Jan. 2.

Mr. KING, of New-York, (Rep.,) presented a petition, numerously signed by citizens of New-York City, praying for the emancipation of slaves under the war power.

Mr. LATHAM, of California, (Dem.,) presented a petition from the Chamber of Commerce of San Francisco, for a steamship mail line between that port and China.

Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, (Rep.,) offered a resolution that the President be requested, if not incompatible with the public interest, to transmit to the Senate all the correspondence which has taken place since the Congress held at Paris in 1856, relating to neutral and belligerent rights on the ocean, which was agreed to.

Mr. KENNEDY, of Maryland, (Union,) presented a resolution from the State of Maryland protesting against inteference with Slavery in the States by the General Government.

Mr. LATHAM offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Finance to inquire into the expediency of establishing a distinct Bureau for the Treasury Department, to regulate and control the Mint, which was agreed to.

Mr. WILSON, of Mass., (Rep.,) offered a resolution instructing the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the necessity of modifying the Act of July, 1861, increasing the military status of the United States. Agreed to,

Also, a resolution calling on the Secretary of War to transmit to the Senate the number of cavalry regiments authorized to be raised, where stationed, and if it would be advisable to convert those not yet mustered into service into regiments of infantry. Agreed to.

Mr. WILSON introduced a bill to provide for the appointment of Sutlers for the volunteer service of the army, and to define their duties. Referred.

Mr. GRIMES, of Iowa, (Rep.,) introduced a bill in regard to the administration of justice in the District of Columbia, which was referred.

Mr. NESMITH, of Oregon, (Dem.,) offered a resolution, calling on the Secretary of War for copies of the report of the Surgeon-General and Sanitary Commission on the health of the army, which was agreed to.

The Senate adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

WASHINGTON, Thursday, Jan. 2.

On motion of Mr. DUELL, of New-York, (Rep.,) it was resolved that the Secretary of War inform the House why certain volunteer regiments from the State of New-York, now encamped in this city, are not provided with arms, and whether any legislation is necessary on the part of Congress to enable the War Department to furnish arms to the regiments now in the field.

Mr. KELLY, of Pennsylvania, (Rep.,) introduced a bill to provide for the defence of the city of Philadelphia and the Delaware River. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

Mr. VALLANDIGHAM, of Ohio, (Dem.,) asked leave to offer a resolution, calling on the Secretary of the Treasury to report, at an early day to the House, the sum total of the present floating debt of the United States, as nearly as the same can be ascertained or estimated, giving also, as far as practicable, the several heads, as to the departments or subject matter under which said debt may be ranged, also that the Secretary of the Treasury be directed to report, as soon as practicable, the amount, in pounds, of the importations of tea, coffee and sugar in the several ports of the United States, for each month of the fiscal year ending June 30, 1861; also, the amount, in pounds, of importations of the same articles for each month of the current fiscal year up to January 1, 1862, with the amount of duty collected on each, since the 5th day of August last.

Mr. STEVENS, of Pennsylvania, (Rep.,) and Mr. FENTON, of New-York, (Rep.,) severally objected to the introduction of the resolution.

Mr. PHELPS, of California, (Union,) asked but failed to obtain leave to introduce a bill extending the laws now in force regulating trade and intercourse with the Indian tribes to the Indians in California.

Adjourned till Monday.

MASON AND SLIDELL GONE.

They are Taken on Board a Steamtug and Transferred to the British Gunboat Rinaldo at Provincetown.

BOSTON, Wednesday, Jan. 1.

The British war-steamer *Rinaldo*, 16 guns, arrived at Provincetown last night. The commander says he was ordered to lay there, is unbending his sails, and appears to be perfectly at home.

BOSTON, Wednesday, Jan. 1.

The steamtug *Starlight* left Fort Warren at 11 A. M., with MASON and SLIDELL and secretaries, for Provincetown, where they will be transferred to the British war-steamer *Rinaldo*, now lying there.

From the Boston Journal, Jan. 1.

We are informed that Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL were finally delivered up this forenoon, and left Fort Warren at about 11 o'clock. The arrangement for their return was very quietly made, and nothing was known in this city in regard to the affair until the hour arrived for their departure. The steam tugboat *Starlight* was employed by the Government to convey the prisoners to Provincetown, Cape Cod, where they are to be transfered to the British gunboat *Rinaldo*, which arrived at that port last night.

In accordance with the above plan of relcasing the rebels, the tugboat *Starlight* left this city shortly before 10 o'clock this forenoon, and stopped at Fort Warren, where see took on board MASON and SLIDELL and their two Secretaries. After receiving their baggage, &c., the tug proceeded on her way to sea, leaving the fort about 11 o'clock. The whole affair was conducted without any display, in perfect quiet, and in the ordinary manner of conveying passengers.

The tugboat will probably reach Provincetown this afternoon, and the prisoners will be transferred without delay to the British gunboat.

PROVINCETOWN, Thursday, Jan. 2.

The British steam gunboat *Rinaldo* left here at five P. M., yesterday, with Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL and their Secretaries on board. The wind blew a hurricane all night.

NEWS FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

A Rebel Stampede at Great Bethel—Retreat to Yorktown—Arrival of Released National Prisoners from Richmond, &c.

FORTRESS MONROE, Tuesday, Dec. 31.

A negro, who came into Camp Hamilton this afternoon, reports that a large camp of the enemy, at a place near Bethel, was broken up, and a general stampede to Yorktown took place, on Saturday night. They had seven heavy howitzers, but they were all removed. The cause of the alarm was a rumor that an advance would be made by Gen. WOOL, on Sunday.

A flag of truce was sent by Gen. MAGRUDER to Hampton Bridge this afternoon, with a small packet of letters for the North. Seven rebel officers composed the party. They remained at Hampton for some time, appeared to be making observations and endeavoring to obtain information of our contemplated movements. Their appearance at this time and with such a small number of letters, leads to the supposition that they were desirous of ascertaining the truth of the current rumors of an advance on our side.

EDWARD JOHNSON, Captain in the Naval Brigade, who has been found guilty of various misdemeanors by a court-martial, and sentenced to be dismissed from the service, has had his sentence confirmed by Gen. WOOL.

FORTRESS MONROE, Wednesday, Jan. 1.

Capts. SHILLINGLAW and MANSON, of the Seventy-ninth New-York Regiment; Lieut. W. DICKINSON, Third Regiment of Infantry, U. S. A.; Lieut. J. W. HART, Twentieth Indiana Regiment; and Corporal THOS. MCDOWELL, of the Seventy-ninth New-York, arrived here from Richmond last evening, by a flag of truce from Norfolk. They are part of the 250 to be released in exchange for an equal number who were sent to Richmond last week. Their stories are listened to with the greatest interest, but add little to the numerous similar statements which have already been published.

A great improvement in the treatment of prisoners is said to have taken place within the past two weeks. The above named soldiers go to Baltimore to-night, on their way to their homes. The remainder of the number to be released are expected here to-morrow afternoon, and a number of our wounded, making a total of 284 to be released, are expected in a few days.

Last night a flag of truce also brought the captain and crew of the Schooner *John F. Crouch*, from Alexandria for Dighton, Mass., with coal, which is reported to have beached inside of Cape Henry, on Friday night last.

New-Year's calls are being made to-day, and most of the officers have called upon Gen. WOOL this morning to pay him their respects.

A flag of truce, early this morning, brought over a young lady to go North.

Capt. MCQUADE, of the Thirty-fifth New-York Volunteers, and a lieutenant of the regulars, died in Richmond on the 26th of December.

GEN. BURNSIDE'S EXPEDITION.

Preparations Hastening to Sail—Visit of Secretary Welles and Commodore Goldsborough—A Serenade.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Tuesday, Dec. 31, 1861.

Admonished that the great expedition was "about to sail," I hastened down here from Washington on Saturday, in order that I might not be left behind. It is needless to remark that I found I had arrived in good season, and that a brief inspection of affairs satisfied me that the fleet would not depart during the year of grace, 1861. I have improved the leisure thus afforded in gathering such information concerning the expedition as will interest the readers of the TIMES at a future day, but which the interests of the public service, to say nothing of the dictates of patriotism, require should not be made public until the armada shall have sailed.

"Let patience have her perfect work," is a scriptural injunction very well to be remembered at times, like these, which not only try men's souls, but also test the quality of that Christian virtue. But, as neither the Government nor the commanding General has yet fixed a definite time for the sailing of the expedition, we are not to assume that there has been any unnecessary delay. It is known that the War Department has been making every exertion to hasten forward the expedition; but at the same time it is the chief aim of the Government to have everything *ready* when it does move, in order that it may do its work effectively. The equipping of more than a score of vessels for a warlike enterprise, which is intended to strike an important, if not a decisive blow upon the great rebellion, is not the work of a few days. The selection of the proper vessels—the changes in their construction and machinery necessary to adapt them to their work—their armament—the almost infinite details attaching to each department—the provisioning of the fleet for a long trip—the character of their commanders and crews—the nature and number of the armed force which is to accompany it, and give success or entail defeat, must all be passed upon by one man. And when it is remembered that all the materials have had to be created for the occasion, and that the chief labor of fitting out the gunboats has been necessarily confided to laymen and mechanics, the surprise will be that so much has been accomplished in so short a time, and that it has been done so well. Certainly no nation, in so short a space of time, has ever created a navy of so many effective vessels—made their entire armament of light and heavy guns, and siege trains—manufactured all the ammunition—found suitable naval commanders and crews, and set them in motion, as we have done in this instance.

It may now be truthfully stated that affairs are assuming definite shape, and the final embarkation of the troops and the sailing of the armada will not be delayed more than a very few days.

Mr. WELLES, Secretary of the Navy, came down from Washington yesterday to look after affairs, and personally to inquire into and forward the expedition. It is understood that he has returned fully satisfied that affairs are in good hands, and progressing as rapidly as the safety and efficiency of the enterprise will permit. He was most of the time in conference with Gen. BURNSIDE and the other officers, and to-day he has taken a look at the fleet, which he regards as very effective and well-adapted to the work in hand.

Last evening the excellent band of the Twenty-seventh Massachusetts, under Mr. BOND, appeared before the City Hotel, the Secretary's quarters, and paid him and Gen. BURNSIDE the compliment of a serenade. At its conclusion, the General went out and thanked them for the ovation for himself and the Secretary.

During the last three days Mr. NORMAN WIARD, who has furnished all the ordnance, &c., for the expedition, has been constantly occupied in visiting the different gunboats and floating batteries, to make a final inspection, and distribute properly the necessary war materials to each vessel. That duty has now been completed. But for this important service many little matters would have been omitted, and possibly have caused fatal damage. Mr. CHARLES H. HASWELL, the Government agent, has personally inspected the outfit of each gunboat, taking a memorandum of what was needed to complete their outfit, in order to send the vessels to sea completely equipped.

A portion of the vessels require a quantity of coal to fill their bunkers, which will give to each a three-weeks' supply. Their water tanks have also been refilled, every space that could be spared from the part devoted to the sleeping accommodation of the troops being appropriated for provisions and water.

The regiments have not all yet been selected and brigaded, and it will be among the *last* things reliably known, as to who and how many will make up the Union army on the present expedition. The lists thus far published are by no means complete or correct, and there is complaint among the officers here that such information should be volunteered to the enemy in advance. It will, however, do them little good so far as it affords a clue to the strength of the expedition. This information, with all else that can interest the public, will be furnished to the patriotic readers of the TIMES in due season.

Quartermaster MESSINGER and his associate officers, cheerfully foregoing the pleasures of home firesides at this festal season, devote themselves unceasingly to forward the departure of the fleet.

It is probable that some changes in the command of the vessels may take place, on which account I withhold the list until it is complete. E. S.

AFFAIRS IN KENTUCKY.

THE RUMORED BATTLE AT PADUCAH.

CHICAGO, Wednesday, Jan. 1.

The Cairo operator says there was no foundation for the statement that there had been a fight at Paducah.

A SKIRMISH IN McLEAN COUNTY.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday, Jan. 2.

Capt. ALFRED BACON was not killed at Paducah, as previously reported, but in a skirmish between the National and rebel pickets near Calhoun, McLean Co., Ky. A guard, composed of men from the Third Kentucky Cavalry Regiment, was attacked by a larger force of the rebels, and five of our men, including Capt. BACON, were killed and twenty taken prisoners.

NEW-ENGLAND MILITARY AFFAIRS.

BOSTON, Thursday, January 2.

Nearly 3,000 men of Gen. BUTLER'S New-England division embarked this afternoon on board of the steamship *Constitution*, which is expected to leave to-morrow. The troops are composed of the Twelfth Maine regiment, Col. SHEPLY, the Bay State regimen, Col. JONES H. FRENCH; a squadron of the Light Cavalry, Capt. DURIVAGE; a company of the Boston Fire Zouaves and Capt. Reid's corps of mounted Riflemen. Previous to the embarkation, standards were presented to the Maine and Masachusetts regiments on the Common, and a salute was fired by a detachment of the ancient and honorable artillery, in honor of Col. FRENCH, their past commander.

RELEASED FROM FORT LAFAYETTE.

WM. M. ABELL and B. L. HAYDEN were yesterday released from Fort Lafayette by order of the Secretary of State, on taking the oath of allegiance and stipulating not to enter the rebellious States.

THE EXPEDITION TO MEXICO.

Arrival of the Spanish Division Before Vera Cruz

The City and Castle Abandoned by the Mexican Authorities.

Vera Cruz in Possession of the Spaniards.

Behavior of the Mexican Populace.

GREAT REJOICING IN HAVANA.

VERA CRUZ UNDER MARTIAL LAW.

Proclamation of the Mexican Governor.

Proclamations and Decrees of the Spanish Commander.

Arrival of the Spanish and French Commanders of the Expedition at Havana.

OUR HAVANA CORRESPONDENCE.

HAVANA, Saturday, Dec. 28, 1861.

All are rejoicing here over the successful landing of the Spanish forces in Mexico, and their occupation of *Vera Cruz without the firing of a gun*, after an unusually speedy and pleasant voyage. All the loyalists of Havana are, of course, in exstacies, and are now pointing with exultation to the late successes of the Spanish arms in Morocco, and their present remarkable good fortune at the opening of their campaign in America, as sure tokens that her Most Catholic Majesty will yet live to see the realm she governs restored to its ancient rank among the nations, as a first-class Power. You will probably think as I do, that jubilee may still be premature; but while such views would be respected in New-York, they would hardly be tolerated in purely Spanish circles here.

I shall endeavor to give you, as accurately as I can glean them, separating fact from fiction, in the various Havanese papers and private letters that have been joyously exhibited, the leading incidents connected with this very important news. Friends in this city, one of whom was with the expedition and has just returned, have also been kind enough to furnish interesting material, while the local authorities in the exuberance of their rejoicing, make every particular public as rapidly as possible. The *Siempre fiel Ysla* is to be surfeited this time with Spanish glory.

You have already seen, no doubt, the glowing descriptions given by the Press of this city of the departure of the different divisions of the fleet, and the following details may supply the gap between that time and the important events that have since occurred.

The third division of the expeditionary fleet left the harbor of Havana about 8 o'clock on the morning of the 2d of this month with a favoring easterly wind, and, it seems, continued on its course, with fair weather and in highly satisfactory condition, during that day and the next one. Early on the 4th some 13 sail altogether were in sight, and before evening the whole fleet of vessels conveying the first and second divisons of the expeditionary army were seen. At 12 o'clock the whole fleet had got together, and, under a brilliant sky, in lat. 22° 45', and lon. 80°, the reunion was celebrated with salutes, hurrahs and music. At 5 o'clock in the afternoon, the transport steamer *Cubana* reported that she had suffered some damage in her machinery, and was taken in tow by the *Velasco*, a strong, staunch vessel, with engines of superior power. Toward 7 o'clock both disappeared from view, and the *Francisco de Asis* was sent in search of them, and succeeded in bringing them back to the fleet, about 9 o'clock at night.

The damage was repaired immediately, and no further detention occurred that night. On Thursday, the 5th, about 1 P. M., there was a conference held on board of the *San Francisco de Asis*, by the Commanders of the expedition, and it was determined that the vessels composing the third section, reinforced by the frigate *Concepcion* and the steamer *Blasco de Garay*, should, under the lead of the *San Francisco de Asis*, bear away for Anton Lizardo, while the rest of the squadron, under lead of the *Isabel la Catolica*, should follow under sail, so as not to use the small supply of coal they had, in view of it's great value for future warlike operations.

On the 6th and 7th, communication was had between all the vessels of the squadron in relation to the health of the troops, and it was ascertained that there were several cases of fever, some of them quite serious. On board the *Cubana* steamer, a Lieutenant of note died, on the evening of the 6th, of the *vomito prieto*, or black vomit! This news created no little inquietude, which was not allayed by the subsequent death of several soldiers, who fell victims to a malignant fever.

On Sunday, the 8th, about daybreak, the exploring steamer *Guadalquiver*, which had run along the Mexican coasts, joined the squadron, and about 11 o'clock the whole fleet anchored with no other casualty than the fall of two sailors into the water during the manœuvring of one of the frigates. One of the poor fellows was lost.

It was learned at the anchorage on Monday, the 8th, that in front of the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa a Spanish merchant ship, called the *Concepcion*, which

had been seized some months previously by the Mexican authorities, had been sunk by order of the Governor of Vera Cruz.

During the morning of the same day, Gen. GASSET went on board of all the vessels at anchor, to review the troops, and was everywhere received with the utmost enthusiasm. All arrangements for the landing were perfected during this general review, and every precaution taken to secure its success. Among other measures, 300 untried troops were transferred from the transport steamer *Cabano* to the *Concepcion* frigate. These were to form a forlorn hope and initiate the the movement.

On Tuesday, at dawn, all the vessels belonging to the entire squadron hove in sight, and anchored at noon. It was then learned that some ten deaths from fever had occured on board the ships of the first and second sections. Others were reported as having occurred by the accidents natural to an expedition of such magnitude.

Shortly after the squadron had come to anchor, the leading officers of the army paid their respects to Gen. GASSETT, Commander of the Expedition, and his Excellency Señor Gen. RUBALCABA, the Spanish Minister of Marine, who accompanied the same; and at a later hour, the French and English Consuls resident at Vera Cruz also went on board of the *Isabel la Catolica* to visit the Minister of Marine. As these worthies were conveyed by a French steamer-of-war various were the conjectures in the fleet as to who they might be, some even supposing that the French Admiral himself had arrived.

After further conference, it was, finally, decided that by the Commander-in-Chief that four frigates should appear off Sacrificios, and that the army Staff, accompanied by one of equal rank from the naval force, should go into Vera Cruz on the *Guadalquiver*, and demand of the Governor the surrender of the place. A severe norther prevented the execution of this plan until the 14th, upon which day the frigates *Petronila*, *Princesa de Asturias*, *Berenguela* and *Concepcion* bouched at Sacrificios. The *Guadalquiver* then followed in to Vera Cruz and disembarked the two official envoys without serious inconvenience. They met with but little difficulty in their mission, the Governor of Vera Cruz informing them that his orders from the Capital were, on the arrival of greatly superior force to withdraw, and demanding only 24 hours in which to effect the evacuation. This was cheerfully accorded, and on the 15th, the Mexican General, URAGA, abandoned the fortresses and City of Vera Cruz without striking a blow in their defence. How this prudence accords with the tenor of his former declarations you may judge of what is given below.

The following is the proclamation published on the 12th ult., in Vera Cruz, by the Governor, Don JOSE LOPEZ URAGA, General of Division and Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the East:

In consideration of the fact that a foreign force has appeared in the waters of the Gulf, and that Mexican territory may be invaded at any moment: that in such case the Supreme Government has ordered the evacuation of Vera Cruz and of the fortress of Ulloa; and that it is the duty of every Mexican to rush to the defence of the integrity and independence of the land, has decreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1. From the moment of the disembarkation of any armed foreign force, of whatever nation it may be, all communication is forbidden to the subjects of the latter, whether from this city with the interior or *vice versa*, unless under a passport from these headquarters.

ARTICLE 2. Those who disobey the present order shall be considered and treated as spies, and their property shall be confiscated.

ARTICLE 3. All communication with places occupied by invading forces shall likewise cease, and any one apprehended between the lines of operation shall, in like manner, be treated as a spy.

ARTICLE 4. All who are taken in communication hereafter, with a view to supplying the enemy with provisions or other assistance, shall be considered traitors to their country, and the goods found in their possession shall be seized, and their other property confiscated.

ARTICLE 5. It being ordered that all cattle and every class of vehicles and conveyances should be immediately withdrawn from every point occupied by a foreign force, everything of that description found within a radius of eight leagues from any such point, twenty four hours after such occupation thereof, shall be considered public property, and shall be taken possession of by the National forces and applied to the most immediate requirements, without, however, diminishing the responsibility incurred by its owner for disobedience.

ARTICLE 6. Within the lapse of twenty-four hours after the publication of the present decree, the owners of horses in this city will send them, for safe keeping, to the interior, at a distance of eight leagues from the coast, or those who prefer to do so, may send them to the Chief of the National Hacienda, so that they may be purchased for the service of the nation. Individuals who, at the expiration of the twenty-four hours, shall have not done one thing or the other, shall be punished in accordance with the laws, and their horses shall be seized.

ARTICLE 7. Within the same period of twenty-four hours, the owners of mules are required to present themselves at the Mayor's Office of the city, there to give information of the number they possess, and the localities in which they keep the same. Those who disobey this regulation shall be held amenable to the penalties indicated in the preceding article.

ARTICLE 8. The Mexican citizen who, failing to discharge his duty, shall not hasten to take up arms in defence of his country, and remains among the forces of the enemy, shall be considered a traitor.

At headquarters, in Vera Cruz the heroic, Dec. 12, 1861. JOSE LOPEZ URAGA.

FRANCISCO DE P. CARILLO, Secretary.

The evacuation was announced to the Spanish authorities in writing. Meanwhile the vessels of the fleet remained at Anton Lizardo and Sacrificios, but on the 16th the *San Francisco de Asis*, *Isabel la Catolica* and the *Guadalquiver* moved up to the anchorage of San Juan de Ulloa. Still the disembarkation of the troops was, in compliance with the entreaties of the local authorities and people of Vera Cruz, postponed until the morning of the 17th, during which day the Spanish flag was hoisted over every stronghold and public building of the place, amid what the Spanish chroniclers of the affair call the enthusiasm, but in reality, as American and other eye-witnesses protest, the helpless stupefaction of the people. Unless high motives of policy have governed the surrender, the scathing verses addressed by MOORE to the Neapolitans, when, after stupendous boasting, they tamely crouched and gave up their beautiful city to the invader in the earlier part of this century, will apply with tenfold force to the Vera Cruzans. Oh, where was the strong arm of the American Republic amid the gloom and misery of that day!

Appended are the proclamations addressed by His Excellency, Gen. Don MANUEL GASSET, to the expeditionary troops and the inhabitants of Vera Cruz, and a decree in which he announces the measures he has deemed it necessary to adopt in behalf of the public safety. The Havanese papers declare them to be "distinguished for the elevated sentiments that animate them, sentiments which have, since, been worthily appreciated by the army and the people of Vera Cruz." Your readers can best judge of that themselves.

HEADQUARTERS EXPEDITIONARY DIVISION TO MEXICO.

General Order of the 16th of December, 1861, on the Beach of Mocambo.

Soldiers! In every quarter the Spanish army meets with glorious remembrances of its valor and devotion. On these very sands exist the traces of HERNANDO CORTES, who with but a handful of Spaniards planted side by side with the standard of Castile, the ensign of the Cross and of Civilization, dazzling the world with his wonderful achievements.

To-day our mission is not less glorious; it is to exact from the Mexican Government satisfaction for insults heaped upon our flag; the fulfillment of treaties and the prevention of further violence against our countrymen, thus demonstrating here, as was lately shown in Africa, and as our companions-in-arms are now proving in Asia, that Spain can nowhere be insulted with impunity, and that distance there is none where honor is at stake.

In taking command of this division, your General has not hesitated to guarantee the happy issue of the enterprise, for he knows that your valor and enthusiasm are never appealed to in vain, that your discipline is equal to your zeal, and that you will be as humane and generous to the conquered as strong and terrible in confronting those who oppose you in battle.

Soldiers! our brilliant squadron shares with us our labors, and has inaugurated them by a successful voyage—the forerunner of certain victory, and even the City of Vera Cruz has comprehended the uselessness of all resistance to those who have, in these same regions, gained victories so often, without counting their own number or that of their adversaries.

If, then, you encounter no obstacles, do not, on that account, diminish your enthusiasm; your mission is not yet accomplished; you are rather but at its commencement. Occasions will present themselves to prove that you are true Spaniards, and that you never depart from the paths of honor. Then will our magnanimous Queen and all Spain exclaim: "These are the men who have, in Mexico, avenged the insults offered to our flag, and reconquered the affection of those who were, in other times, our brothers!"

Soldiers! long live the Queen!

MANUEL GASSET, Gen. Commanding.

PEOPLE OF VERA CRUZ: The Spanish troops that occupy your city have no mission of conquest, no merely interested views. They are led hither solely by the duty of demanding satisfaction for the failure to comply with treaties, and the acts of violence committed against our countrymen, as also by the necessity of obtaining guarantees that similar outrages shall not be repeated.

Until these objects shall have been attained here, and whithersoever eventualities may lead it, the Spanish army will, with its rigorous discipline, know how to maintain public tranquillity at every hazard, to give protection to peaceful inhabitants, and to punish with severity all disturbers of order, subjecting such to a military commission, to be appointed for the purpose of proceeding against every class of delinquents.

VERA CRUZANS! You have nothing to fear; you know the Spanish soldiery and your present attitude completes my recognition of that fact. Devote yourselves, then, to your various pursuits, and be assured that it will be the greatest of all sources of satisfaction to this army when it shall have accomplished the mission intrusted to it by the Queen, to return to its own country sure of having merited your affection.

MANUEL GASSET,
Commander of the Spanish forces.

VERA CRUZ, Dec. 17, 1861.

Annexed is the decree by which the Spanish commander has declared Vera Cruz to be in a state of siege, and imposed penalties for certain transgressions of order under such regulations made and established:

Don MANUEL GASSETT Y MERCADER, Grand Cross of the Royal and Distinguished Spanish Order of CARLOS III, and of the American Order of ISABEL the Catholic, Fellow Knight of the Grand Ducal Crown of the Low Countries, Cavalier of the Royal and Military Orders of San Fernando of the first class, and of San Hermenegildo, and of many others, for deeds of war, Well-Deserving of his Country, Field Marshal and Commander-in-Chief of the Spanish forces in Mexico.

Having assumed the superior political and military command, considering the special circumstances in which this country finds itself placed at the present moment, and determined to punish with the utmost severity of the military laws, all who, in any manner whatever, shall disturb public order, personal security or the property of peaceful inhabitants, I have ordered as follows:

ARTICLE 1.—This city and such other points as are occupied by the Spanish troops are declared to be in a state of siege.

ART. 2.—A permanent Military Commission is established to take cognizance of every class of offences.

ART. 3.—Minor offences and misdemeanors shall be punished by the civil rules of Government.

ART. 4.—All persons having in their possession firearms of any description whatever, shall place the same in the principal guard-houses of this place within the exact period of twenty-four hours, counting from the publication of this order.

MANUEL GASSET.

VERA CRUZ, Dec. 17, 1861.

The general order from headquarters organizing the military Government of the place, makes the following appointments:

Military Government.—Col. Don. Luis del Riego y Pica, Sergeant Major; Secretary, Lieut. Don Adolfo Biond y Pradello; First Adjutant, Brevet Commandant, Capt. Don Ramon Vieytiz y Velasco; First Sergeant, Luis Cevallos y Quintana; Thid Sergeant, do.

Artillery—General Commandant, Don Manuel Pereira y Abascal.

Engineers—Colonel, Don Nicolas Valdés, and Fernandez, Chief.

Military Administration—Head Superintendent, Commissary of War of the first-class. Don Baltasar Lopez y Caparros, Military Superintendent.

Military Board of Health—Dr. Don Joaquin Rosell y Tio, Chief of the Board.

The Spaniards, with a laudable emulation of American enterprise, quite unasual among them, have at once issued a paper, entitled the "*Cronica del Ejercito Expedicionario*, or *Chronicle of the Expeditionary Army*, in the captured city, and it furnishes many of the interesting facts recited. It states, among other things, that scarcely had the Spanish flag been hoisted over the public buildings of Vera Cruz ere the President of the Town Council, with formal submission, waited upon Gen. GASSET, and received him at the Consistorial Mansion,—an equivalent to the City Hall in American municipalities. There a procession of local officials escorted the General into the Hall of Sessions, and, with all ceremony, set forth a statement of the condition of the palace. The General, in reply, was profuse of his promises. Protection, security and fraternal intercourse were guaranteed, and his Excellency was then conducted to a mansion set apart for him in the main street and elegantly fitted up by Messrs. AUGLADA & Co., where a large number of citizens, (chiefly however of Spanish birth or connection,) paid their homage.

Since the 17th, Gen. GASSET has been engaged in organizing the various details of local military government, and looking about him with a view to further operations. The French representative, M. DUBOIS DE SALIGNY was already in Vera Cruz, and Sir CHAS. LENOX WHITE was expected from Orizaba on the 21st. On the 20th, the Secretary of the French Legation, M. DELALONDE set out from Vera Cruz for the Capital. There were some squads of Mexican guerrillas at work, at a few leagues distance from the city, and a force of Spanish cavalry was about to sally forth in quest of them. The permanent military council had commenced operations, and offenders would be summarily dealt with. Thus Mexico already begins to feel the yoke intended for her neck.

On the 18th, after four days' sail, the transport steamer *Alava* arrived at Vera Cruz with the Havana papers and mails, accompanied by those received from Spain by the Spanish steam-packet *America*. She also brought a quantity of provisions for the expedition.

Here the *Pajaro del Oceano*, which was to leave Vera Cruz on the 25th, will be due on the 29th, when I expect to collect further and completer details of this great Anti-American movement than, in the haste end hubbub here, have yet been available.

NINGUNO.

From Another Correspondent.

HAVANA, Dec. 28, 1861.

The paucity of communication between this place and the City of New-York prevents frequent correspondence as we have now for some time been limited to only two steamers, namely, the *Columbia*, Capt. ADAMS, which formerly ran, in conjunction with the *Marion*, to Charleston, S. C., and the British steamer *Karnak*, which plies between New York Nassau and Havana. This scarce conveyance between the Island of Cuba and the United States might be rendered less disadvantageous if their trips were arranged in such a manner as to arrive at regular intervals, the one after the other, but as no such agreement exists, the means of going between these two cities and the correspondence are very irregular.

In Havana we are now in the midst of rejoicing and festivity, owing to the advent of the Christmas holidays (*las Pascuas*) and the arrival of Gen. PRIM, Marquis de los Castillejos, the Commander-in-Chief of the combined forces of Spain, France and England, according to Spanish accounts, in the expedition against Mexico, and Plenipotentiary of Her Catholic Majesty, ISABEL the Second. The Spanish steamer *Ulloa* arrived on the 23d inst., at 11 A. M., having on board the so-called hero of the Castillejos, Gen. PRIM, whence his title and has been the rejoicing therefor among his countrymen, the Catalans, with whom PRIM is the semi-god of the Payans. As soon as the signals of the Moro announced the far-off appearance of the steamer, an immense concourse of people proceeded to the wharves to welcome the future *conquerer* of Mexico, or to view the fun. A steamer also left the port with Individuals and music to receive the General with more honors. On landing, Gen. PRIM, who is accompanied by his wife and child, proceeded to the palace where he was received by the Captain General. In the meantime a large crowd, principally of the lower order of Spaniards here resident, kept up a continual hurrah, the star of PRIM quite eclipsing for a time the popularity of our present worthy Governor, Gen. SERRANO. The interview lasted for about an hour, when the illustrious guests left for the charming *quinta* or country seat of the Captain General, called "Los Molinos," and situate a short distance from the city in its environs. Gen. SERRANO, with his customary gallantry, escorted the lady of Gen. PRIM, the Marchioness DE LOS CASTILLEJOS, to the carriage in waiting, and the party drove off amid the frenzied acclamations of the mob, who for the whole time of the interview had kept up a round of cheering and hurrahs for the Queen, the Captain General, and his illustrious guest, Gen. PRIM. The streets of Muralla and Mercaderes, where the Catalans *do most abound*, have since PRIM's arrival been most gorgeously festooned with banners and flags; many of the other streets have likewise been similarly adorned, but whether precisely in honor of the future conqueror of Mexico, or on account of the religious festivities of the period, so highly honored in all countries of the "Catholic persuasion," deponent saith not. Perhaps both combined. The report goes that one of our Secession countrymen here took the occasion to put out the Confederate flag in conjunction with that of Spain. A message was sent from the palace ordering him peremptorily to haul it down which was obliged to be done, in spite of many remonstrances and a threat to take down also the Spanish banner, of which latter, however, there is now so great an abundance in the streets that the disappearance of one would hardly be missed. On the following day after that of his arrival there was a public reception at the Captain General's of the various public functionaries, to congratulate the Marquis de los CASTILLEJOS on his safe arrival, at which many of our principal people were present. Rejoicings, banners and music have since then been the evening's amusement in our public streets, which have been more than ordinarily frequented by the inhabitants of our city, Gen. SERRANO and Gen. PRIM forming a part of the *cortège*, to view the nightly illuminations that during the present Christmas week have adorned our City of the Antilles.

It is not yet known when PRIM starts for Mexico, but doubtless soon, as news of the occupation of Vera Cruz by the Spanish expeditionary force, under Gen. GASSET, on the morning of the 17th inst., was brought to Havana on the 26th inst. by the Spanish war steamer *San Francisco de Avis*, which formed a part of the expeditionary fleet. The last portion of the fleet left here on the 2d of December, and at noon on the 4th the whole Spanish fleet, which had left Havana in three different sections at deffe ent duty, were together, arriving in front of Vera Cruz on the 8th.

Nothing was done until the 4th, when the war steamer *Guadalquiver* took two officers, one of the army and another of the navy, to represent the General and Admiral commanding, to Vera Cruz, to demand a surrender of the place, where they landed without any difficulty. On presenting the summons to surrender, the Governor of the town replied that he had that same morning published a proclamation for the evacuation of the place and forts by order of his Government, assuring the Spanish officers that no resistance would be made to the landing of the expeditionary troops, nor to the occupation of the city. He would, however, reserve to himself the right of holding out the place for the 24 hours before he gave an official reply. On the following day, the 15th, the Governor of Vera Cruz made public in letter what he had mentioned in conversation the preceding evening, and retired from the city with his forces. In the interval, the Spanish ships-of-war that had been anchored along the shore of Anton Lizardo, proceeded to Sacrificios, and on the 16th the Spanish war steamers *Francisco de Asis*, *Isabel la Cattolica* and *Guadalquivir* changed their positions to the anchorage ground near the Castle of San Juan d'Ulloa. The landing of the troops did not, however, take place before the 17th, who, according to the Spanish accounts from Vera Cruz, were of course received with much enthusiasm in the city, and the Castle of Ulloa was afterwards taken possession of by a captain of the Spanish navy, Don RAFAEL ARIAS, at the head of a hundred marines. The *ad interim* Commander-in-Chief of the expeditionary force, Gen. GASSET, landed on the same day, when the Spanish flag was raised over the city and abovenamed fortress.

The Spanish accounts say that when the garrison of Vera Cruz saw the first part of the expeditionary force arrive, they imagined that all the force against which they would have to fight were aboard of the five or six steamers that formed it, and consequently began to prepare for defence; but on seeing the remainder of the fleet arrive, together with the transports filled with soldiers and munitions of war, they were convinced that resistance was useless, and began to retreat from the city, taking away with them part of the artillery and the ammunition that they had there, burning, however, the day preceding, a Spanish merchant ship called the *Concepcion*, that had been taken by an American steamer charted by JUAREZ at the time he was besieged by MIRAMON in Vera Cruz, and which had been declared a lawful prize. The Spaniards looked upon it as a sort of challenge, and were very bitter at their burning the ship *Concepcion*, on the saint-day of the "*Purissima Concepcion*," thus adding sacrilege to their other manifold subjects of outrage. The Spaniards boasted that the garrison or Ulloa left from 80 to 100 cannon in the fort, and among them one rifled and of modern construction, and that they might have made a defence, although obliged at last to succumb.

In the evening of the 27th inst., the cannons of Cabañas announced the arrival of part of the French squadron, consisting of the steamer *Massena*, 800-horse power, Commander ROSE, and carrying 90 guns, with the French Admiral JULIEN DE LA GRAVIERE on board: the frigates *Guerrière*, carrying 34 rifled cannon, 68-pounders; *Astrée* do., and the *Ardente*. The land force consists of 1,300 marines, 500 Zouaves, 500 marine fusiliers, 200 marine artillery, 60 marine gunners, 50 engineers—total, 2,610. On the same day the British steamer *Spiteful* entered our port with urgent dispatches for Commodore DUNLOP, who carries his flag on board of the screw-steamer *Challenger*, but not finding him in port, sailed out again and met the *Challenger* a few miles out at sea. The dispatches, it is reported, have reference to the state of affairs between England and the United States.

The Christmas holidays closed on the 27th, with diversions of every kind; a bull-fight at Belasconin' theatricals and masquerade balls, and last, not least, a torch-light procession, when Gen. PRIM was presented with a gold coronet by a committee of merchants of the place, amid the hurraing of the multitude, in which PRIM joined with *vivas* to the Queen, the Captain-General and the people of Havana. LARA.

From Bermuda.

By the arrival of the brig N. C. *Shaw*, Capt. SHAW, from St. George's, we have dates to the 18th of December inclusive.

The British mail steamer from Halifax arrived on that day.

The London packet-ship *Devonshire* was partially discharged, having a quantity of coal and some wool remaining in her. Her leak has been found to be in the lower part of the bottom, and from the want of a dry dock, she cannot be repaired at Bermuda. She will probably be brought home for repairs, with the aid of steam pumps and extra men, when the good weather sets in.

The Norwegian brig *Fire Sodskende*, Capt. ANDERSON, from Newsastle for New-York, 61 days out, put into Hamilton 14th December, with loss of sails and loss of provisions.

The schooner *Caroline*, McDONALD, from P. E. I., arrived on the 14th. She had broken main gaff, jibboom, &c., and lost a man overboard.

The *S. C. Shaw* brings home a portion of the *Devonshire's* cargo.

Incidents at Bombardment of Fort Pickens.

The following extract is from a letter written by an officer on board the United States steamer *Richmond*, after the bombardment of Fort Pickens:

I went by invitation of Lieut. ——, of the Engineers, to visit the fort. Took a circuit first of the covered way, then of the parapet and ramparts. All around the fort, inside and out, were marks of the enemy's shot and shell. On the glacis, here and there, are deep groves, ending in a large hole, where the shot had plumped into it, and where there had been shell which had burst. The hole was a great excavation, into which you could drive an ox cart. Where the projectiles have struck the standing walls, they have chipped off patches of the brickwork, (it is a brick and not a stone fort) perhaps eight or ten inches deep, and where they struck the corners, larger portions have been removed, but in no case has any part of the fortifications received an injury, tending in the least to weaken it, and this after two days' heavy firing. The only man who was killed outright, during the two days' action, was an artilleryman, who was passing into the casemates with some bread from the bake-house. A shell exploded at the other side of the area, and one piece, flying a distance of some two or three hundred feet, passed through his body, under his arms. He walked a few steps and dropped dead. There were many almost miraculous escapes. A shell was heard coming toward a gun on the parapet, and the men dodged under their bomb-proofs. The shell hit fairly on top of the bomb-proof, went through and dropped into a pail of water beside the officer, where it exploded. When the men came out again to resume their work, all they saw of their officer was his heels sticking out of a pile of rubbish. After digging him out, they stood amazed to see that he was not even *hurt*. He rose up, shook the sand from his hair and clothes, and coolly said, "Come, come! what are you standing there gaping at? Load that gun there." At it they went again, as if nothing had happened. Another officer, who had charge of a battery of mortars, had no less than seventeen shells strike within ten yards of him. I saw the ground plowed up in every direction, and yet not a man was hurt. About twenty of the men, who had been relieved from their guns, were sitting smoking and watching the firing in a corner, protected from shot by the walls, when half of a huge shell struck and buried itself right in the middle of the group without disturbing them in the least. "What's that?" asked one. "The devil knows, and he won't tell," indifferently responded another, and went on smoking. A 10-inch columbiad came rolling toward a group, the fuse whizzing and smoking. "Wonder if that'll hit us!" "Guess not! we're too near it!" Crack! went the shell, flying in every direction, but fortunately escaping them all. The rebel powder was poor, as also their shot and shell, except that portion which they succeeded in stealing before the rebellion broke out. Their practice, however, was said to be good—how could it have been otherwise? Uncle Sam taught them at his unparalleled school at West Point; but with little thought that the teaching would be thus employed.

Burning of the Schooner Orin Cowe.

SANDY HOOK, Thursday, Jan. 2.

The schooner *Orin Cowe*, of Rockland, Me., with a load of granite for the fort building here, was destroyed by fire last night. ALFRED GRAY, of Rockland, Me., was lost.

Assistant Bishopric of Pennsylvania.

PHILADELPHIA, Thursday, Jan. 2.

Wm. BACON STEVENS was consecrated Assistant Bishop of Pennsylvania this morning, at St. Andrew's Church.

FURTHER EUROPEAN NEWS.

Arrival of the Norwegian at Portland.

OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENCE.

Interesting from English and French Files.

AMERICAN LEANINGS OF THE PARIS PRESS

Rancorous Article of the London Times on the North.

The Stone Blockade Declared to be a Violation of Human Rights.

The steamship *Norwegian*, from Liverpool on the 19th ult., calling at Londonderry on the 20th, arrived at Portland on the 1st.

The principal facts of her news had been previously received from the *Asia* at Halifax.

We are now, however, placed in possession of our Continental correspondence, and of London and Paris files a day later.

The American shipping at Havre are in a state of panic, owing to the presence of the *Nashville* at Southampton. The *Journal du Havre* states that several of the largest of the American vessels in that harbor have purchased rifled ordnance and ammunition, so as to be able to repel an attack.

It is said that Capt. SEMMES, of the *Sumter*, has arrived at Rotterdam.

The London *Daily News* says:

"Col. FULLER, late Editor of the New-York *Mirror*, announces that, at the request of several American and English gentlemen, he will deliver an address in St. James' Hall, on 'The Causes and Consequences of the Civil War in America.' We understand that the Colonel will advocate the cause of the South—a cause which has our constant and cordial execrations. Still, as it is a cause with vast social and material forces at its command, it is one which we are all concerned to understand. In this country both Slavery and Secession, mother and daughter, have a vast amount of ability at their service; but their work has been done, for the most part, insidiously and by suggestion. Col. FULLER will be an honest and straightforward pleader. *We have had the means of satisfying ourselves that he is high in the esteem of his brthren of the American Press*, and it is well on every account that the cause of the South should be represented by a gentleman of extensive information, and well qualified to exhibit its fairest side."

THE ANGLO-AMERICAN QUESTION IN FRANCE.

The President's Message—The General Surprise—Tone of the Parisian Journals—The Idea of French Mediation Discarded—Has the American Government a Right to Blockade with Stones?—The Errand of Gen. Scott.

From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, Tuesday, Dec. 17, 1861.

A suspense, which was growing painful, in regard to the President's Message, is at length over. The anxiously awaited document has arrived, but it does not contain a word about the affair of the *Trent*. The surprise knows no bounds. A speculator at the Bourse, more *spirituelle* than his colleagues, found an explanation of the enigma: "Mr. LINCOLN forgot it!" The word was taken up, and has had an immense success. Here was England about to fall on the American coast with an armada such as the world had never seen, all Europe was in consternation at the disasters that were to follow such a struggle, commerce was already paralyzed, the funds were fluctuating like the needle of a barometer before a storm, and Mr. LINCOLN had forgotten to speak of the circumstance! The joke was too chilling; and people swore while they laughed. Was there ever such a people on the face of the earth? *Ils ne se doutent de rien!* They fiddle while Rome is burning!

The first surprise over, each one seeks to penetrate the President's meaning, and each one finds a meaning to suit his individual desire. The one finds that the abstention is meant to leave a door open for negotiation and peace, the other that it is a menace and means war. Taken, however, in connection with the recommendation for fortifying the coasts, with the very decided approval of the act of Capt. WILKES by the Secretary of the Navy, and the vote of approbation in Congress, the general opinion is that war is inevitable, and every one is acting upon that belief. The funds fell in London one-half per cent., and at Paris 35 centimes. The panic is universal.

The comments thus far in the Press on the President's Message are only based upon the *resume* sent over the telegraph, and are consequently meagre. The *Journal des Dbats*, however, which is friendly to us, takes exception to the air of *hauteur* which the President assumes when speaking of "foreign nations," and thinks that in a question so important as that which now agitates the American continent, he might have shown some conciliation toward his friends and well-wishers in Europe. In comprising France with the "foreign nations" which have no higher motives of action than cotton and commerce, he mistakes the sentiments of the French people.

The *Presse*, which takes high ground in favor of the North in the struggle against the South, but quite as high ground against the North in the affair of the *Trent*, regrets, now that President LINCOLN has put himself right on the Slavery question, that he should not also set himself right on the question of the right of search. Just as the good work is begun, says the *Presse*, it must be arrested and compromised by this unfortunate affair of the *San Jacinto*.

The *Débats*, which also regrets that we should stop in the good work we had undertaken in order to pick a war with England on an untenable point of international law, publishes a long article to show the powerlessness of the United States on the high seas, as against England. The change from sailing vessels to steamers gives England every advantage on the sea; for while she has plenty of ports in which to coal her steamers, the United States have none. Privateering will, therefore, be out of the question. The *Débats* thinks, also, that Canada will not be difficult to hold against the Americans.

The *Siècle* takes the *Débats* to task for publishing this kind of article, and says that this is not the way to bring about peace between two parties, where peace is so essential for the success of the cause which the two journals support in common—the destruction of Slavery.

The question of French mediation, which was at first freely discussed as possible and desirable by the French Press, is now rejected as not applicable to the case in question, because it is not a question of principle that threatens to break the peace between the United States and England, but an insult to a flag—a question purely personal. So you see what divagations people are liable to when they have a discussion all their own way.

The majority of the French papers have thus accepted the English interpretation of the treaty of Paris, which is that after the insult to the flag is atoned for, France may offer her mediation on the question of right involved.

The English papers, as if by concert, are starting a discussion of the question whether or not the American Government has a right to sink stones in the channels of great seaport towns like Charleston or Savannah. This discussion, of course, cannot be serious, and the French draw from it the conclusion that the English are already counting upon those ports as their own property. The belief, in fact, is growing in France that England has serious thoughts of converting the Southern States into an English Colony, and if France were as unprincipled as England in her treatment of questions of international right, she would undoubtedly join England on condition of getting her share of the spoils in the Louisiana region. We have not yet arrived there, but the thing is discussed in high quarters as an eventuality that may arise out of the anticipated war. France believes that the American Government has taken illegal ground on the question of the right of search, and may make of this an excuse, in case she sees that England is likely to make territorial acquisitions in the war, to join in and reclaim her old Mississippi colony. France will thus not take any initiatory step to weaken us, but will only join her forces to those of England when she sees the power of the Union irrevocably destroyed. These are the views of Frenchmen, based on the war that is now thought to be inevitable.

The motives of the departure of Gen. SCOTT continue to occupy the French Press, and have drawn from the *Moniteur* a correction. The official journal denies that the General had an interview with any member of the Imperial Government. This is true so far as the Emperor and the Cabinet are concerned, but he had an interview with the Prince NAPOLEON.

Rev. Dr. SCOTT, of San Francisco, Secessionist, preached at the Oratoire, in this city, last Sunday.

MALAKOFF.

THE TONE OF THE FRENCH PRESS.

THE CHANCES OF AN ANGLO-AMERICAN WAR CONSIDERED.

The *Journal des Débats* publishes, from the pen of M. XAVIER RAYMOND, a very remarkable article on the chances of the war which now seems likely to break out between England and the United States. M. RAYMOND sets forth very clearly that as regards naval warfare the odds are tremendously in favor of England, and then proceeds to consider whether the probability of conquering Canada may not have induced the Cabinet of Washington to provoke a war with Great Britain; but he comes to the conclusion that the possible advantages they might derive from it does not justify the aggression of the Federal Government. He reminds his readers that the British possessions in North America are contiguous to the United States on a line of frontier several hundred leagues in length, and which runs from one end of the continent to the other in its widest part, from the territory of British Columbia on the Pacific to the mouth of the St. Lawrence on the Atlantic. M. RAYMOND thinks that:

"It is sufficient to cast a glance on the map to understand how desirable an acquisition the territory of Canada, with its outlying dependencies of Acadia, New-Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, would prove for the United States, and on reflecting on the incidents of the last few months, it is difficult not to believe that if war is to arise out of the incident provoked by the Cabinet of Washington, it will have been undertaken chiefly with the hope of conquering those wealthy and extensive provinces."

M. RAYMOND, however, does not seem to think that the attempt is likely to be successful. Twice already the Yankees have made attempts to annex the Canadian territory, but they were on each occasion driven back by the local militia, barely supported by a few detachments of regulars. M. RAYMOND very sensibly remarks, it would seem as though President LINCOLN had intended to avail himself of the circumstances which had enabled the American Government to raise for the first time an army of several hundred thousand men to undertake the conquest of a territory which would more than compensate the loss of the South. According to M. RAYMOND, they flatter themselves at Washington that the French *habitants*, and the Irish emigrants, who form the great majority of the scanty population of Canada, would receive the band of rowdies that constitute what the Yankees fondly believe to be an army of liberators, and would hail with jubilation their annexation to the Great Republic. M. RAYMOND very shrewdly observes that it is not impossible that such may be the case, but that it is very far from certain. He points out to the supposed would-be conquerors of Canada that for upwards of a quarter of a century the colonial policy of England has been so liberal and intelligent that there is no exaggeration in saying that England now forms with her colonies a federation of really United States, the liberty, independence, and self-government of each of which are far better guarantees than any of the doctrines that now prevail at Washington could possibly afford. He points out that independently of their local privileges, the natives of the British colonies enjoy the same political and civil rights in England as though they were born within the sound of Bow bells; that the army and navy are filled with officers of colonial birth—that Sir W. F. WILLIAMS of Kars, the Governor of New-Brunswick, is a native of that province, and that Judge HALIBURTON, though a colonial judge, is also a member of the British Parliament.

"These considerations (says M. RAYMOND, in conclusion) induce us to think that they are nursing dangerous illusions at Washington, if they fancy that the cooperation of the Canadians is to be relied on for the conquest of their own country. On the other hand, however, we have not the slightest doubt of the fact, that England neither could nor would defend Canada unless Canadians defend it themselves. Here is the problem, but it is still a problem. Therefore we think that after showing their utter powerlessness as regards the South, and having the certain prospect before them of being beaten at sea, *the Government of the United States should listen to the voice of reason, and not recklessly engage in so rash an adventure.* We think it natural that it should be seduced by the hope of uniting to the Confederation the whole of Northern America as far as the pole, but we hope that at the last moment, and before adding to all the embarrassments it is already hampered with, it will think twice about it, and stop in time. It is imprudent to run such risks, with all the chances which can be estimated with any degree of certainty against one, and when the most sanguine hopes entertained rest solely on suppositions which the experience of the past does not confirm."

A FRIENDLY VIEW OF THE QUESTION.

The *Revue des deux Mondes* wishes the United States would give up the Commissioners, not on account of the satisfaction this would give to the outraged honor of England, but because "*it would be such a triumph for the right of neutrals to apply it for the advantage of a nation which has ever opposed and violated it.*" It then proceeds:

"We are not unjust toward England. We comprehend the emotion with which the English nation was seized at the news of the seizure of Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL. She was offended in her maritime pride by the search to which one of her vessels had been subjected; she was touched in her honor by the violation of the right of asylum committed on board the *Trent*. We also understand that powerful interests may induce England to seize on the opportunity of the brutality of a Commodore to hasten the dissolution of the great American Republic. It is not necessary to speak of the resentments which may have been inspired by the powerful concessions which England has been obliged to make at other periods to the pretensions of the United States. Interests of two kinds—one political and the other commercial—may lead England to turn to a profitable account the present embarrassments of the Northern States. The United States is the only Power which, up to the present time, has had the force or the good chance of checking the English policy. Any weakening of the United States may therefore appear an advantage to her. Cotton holds such a prominent place in the economical life of England that the English Government may be led to conquer by a *coup de main* the daily bread of its manufactures. Far be from us the idea that such motives could justify all the summary proceedings which are now stated to be in contemplation by England; that there are natural causes for the hostility of England against the United States is all that we shall state. And yet, to the honor of our neighbors, we admit that there are among them wise and generous souls and eloquent voices, *who, even at the moment when National passions are at the height of effervescence, know how to remain faithful to the duty of impartiality and moderation, and who do not despair of being able to turn their country away from the violent policy to which attempts are bring made to lead it.*"

The *Revue* then quotes an extract from Lord STANLEY's speech, at King's Lynn, recommending the strictest neutrality towards America, and though he admits that that speech was delivered before the news of the outrage was received, considers it applicable to the present case. He also praises the "statesmanlike views" of Mr. BRIGHT. The reader will be more interested in his estimate of the probable policy of France:

"But would France find an excuse in her interests, political or commercial, if she were to allow herself to be seduced from her neutrality by the perfidious insinuations of that 'independent and devoted' Press, which has conceived the bright idea of uniting us with England in the event of a war against America. For us it is manifest that no interest, either political or commercial, ought to impel us to take part in such a war, while all interests on the contrary bind us to observe neutrality. Certainly the manner in which the Southern Commissioners were laid hold of on board the *Trent* is a violation of the right of neutrality, and France would repudiate all her principles if she approved of such an act,—but even should the United States obstinately refuse any satisfaction to the English Government, should we seriously have a right to alarm ourselves, and to take up arms against America, as though she really threatened all neutrals? In the maritime history of the United States, the affair of the *Trent* is only an isolated exception. All the territory of that country, its conditions of existence, and the necessities of the future, are in contradiction with that exception, and prevent America from making it a rule of maritime right. What danger is there that the Northern States will apply that rule to other neutrals? Where are their squadrons? Where are their maritime stations situated? Where are the instruments by which they can aspire to the sovereignty of the seas? Should the United States refuse to make any concession in the affair of the *Trent*, we should doubtless deeply regret it for their own interest, *but we shall not be able to see in this manifestation of hostility on the part of the American people against English policy, any threat for our principles and our security in matters of maritime right. The United States will not on that account cease to be what they have ever been, the defenders of the liberty of the seas.* We should be guilty of the most absurd political inconsistency if, deceiving ourselves as to the bearing of a pretext of war, we should go and aid the power which pretends to maritime supremacy in dismembering and humiliating one of the powers whose strength and prosperity are the most necessary for the maintenance of the equilibrium of the seas; modern France, France of the Revolution, is still too young, and has undergone too frequent shocks to have numerous political traditions, but among our rare traditions the alliance of the United States is the oldest; it is closely associated with the origin of our Revolution, and it represents one of our most certain interests—that of being able to oppose a counterpoise to England on the ocean. *Why, in contempt of this tradition, and of the affinities which have several times manifested themselves between our political aspirations and those of the United States should we hasten to recognize the Southern Confederation, and thus ratify the dismemberment

which even a nation at war may exercise. We read in *Grotius*, and other writers upon the state of war and peace, that all people who deserve the name of a nation have in all times respected things which are beneficial to the whole human race. Thus there is a rule derived from the authority of Holy Writ that fruit-trees shall be spared wherever found. The implements of the husbandman have also been held sacred. To conquer, and not to destroy, is the right of a belligerent nation of civilized beings. Yet we are told, with a dastardly exultation, that fleets have gone forth from New-London and New-Bedford laden, not with soldiers and arms, but with stones, and that these fleets, with their stony hardness scuttled broadside, have obstructed for years to come the channels of entry by sea to those cursed cities Charleston and Savannah." The object is to strangle these great ports of commerce—not to repossess them, but to destroy them for all time. If this be true—and we believe the fact of the attempt is established—*it is an act of hostility to the whole human race.* The civilized Greek refused to put out "the eye of Greece;" the savage American sails in full security to paralyze all the senses by which the Southern States might communicate in all time to come with the outer world. People who would do an act like this would pluck the sun out of the heavens, to put their enemies in darkness, or dry up the rivers, that no grass might ever grow on the soil where they had been offended. *Yet such men ask for our sympathies, and there are a scattered few among us who are not ashamed to identify themselves with them and their doings!*

Once again, the Government of the North, in the agony of its disappointment and its rage, is evidently about to make an attempt to spread massacre through the unprotected dwellings of their estranged brethren. That the division of these two vast countries must occasion the extinction of Slavery, no one who looks thoughtfully upon passing events can doubt. Two independent States cannot stand side by side without the element of Slavery oozing forth. But this design of the North has nothing to do with Slavery as a principle. It contemplates the negro only as an instrument of revenge. *It means, not the subjection of armed men in fair fight, but horrible deeds committed upon defenceless whites of every age and sex.* Here, again, we believe that the success of the scheme will not by any means correspond with the atrocity of the conception. But it is a terrible act for men calling themselves civilized to have even contemplated. It is terrible alike for whites and for blacks; for it seems that, after exciting these black men to work out this unmanly revenge, the North does not propose to endure their presence. *Mr. Lincoln, like one of the despots of the Old World, undertakes to transport the whole race, slave and free, to some territory which no white man desires, but which Mr. Lincoln will buy for them, that he may never more behold a sable face.*

All these things are as yet but in their commencement. Some are only threatened; others are only tentatively begun. They promise, however, in their development such scenes of horror as the world has never seen since men fought like wild beasts. Against such methods of war we protest at the outset. Against bloody reprisals, against the wanton destruction of those harbors which a beneficent Creator has given for the enjoyment of all His creatures, against incitations to domestic rapine and murder, we protest in the name of humanity and civilization. There is scope enough given by the laws of war for ruthless deeds: *but acts of mere vengeance never yet decided a great war, and ought not to be permitted by the guardians of the civilization of mankind.*

ARBITRATION INADMISSIBLE.

From the London Herald.

The *Daily News*, which oscillates strangely between flashes of hearty English spirit and strong Northern sympathies, goes further back, however, than Lord CLARENDON, and invokes the name of Lord CASTLEREAGH. It is with something like wonder that we find the policy of that distinguished and much misunderstood diplomatist quoted approvingly in a Liberal journal, though we not the less admire the candor of the writer who has so far forgotten the prejudices of his school. But the case cited in illustration of the advantages derivable from arbitration is a singularly unlucky one. It is undoubtedly true that, at the close of the war of 1812, between this country and the United States, some questions of a very intricate nature remained undecided, and that by the Treaty of Ghent, in 1814, these questions, principally of frontier rights, were left to two Commissioners, whose settlement was to be final, but who, in the event of their disagreement, were to refer the points of difference to a friendly Sovereign or State, the two Governments engaging "to consider the decision of such friendly Sovereign or State to be final and conclusive in all matters so referred." But what was the result? The two Commissioners were appointed, according to the treaty, but no settlement could be agreed upon; and in 1827 it was resolved to act upon the proviso of the treaty of 1814, and refer the matter to an arbiter. In 1829 the King of the Netherlands was chosen as referee, the two Powers again formally pledging themselves to abide by his decision. The King of the Netherlands made his award in 1831. It reached this country, accompanied by a protest from Mr. PREBBLE, the United States Minister at the Hague, who contended that although the two Governments had pledged themselves to accept an absolute award, they could not be expected to subscribe to the compromise recommended. The British Government accepted the award; but in 1832 the American Government formally disavowed it, and a year or two afterwards Lord GREY's Government also declared that this country was no longer bound by its acceptance of the offer. The consequence was that negotiations had to be commenced *de novo*, and that the matter was not settled until the year 1842 by the Treaty of Washington, after 28 years of bad blood and wrangling, threatening at any moment to end in a rupture, and necessitating the presence of a large military and naval force in the North American colonies. Yet this is the precedent quoted by the *Daily News* for our imitation at the present moment.

It would be difficult to conceive a case that told more directly and conclusively against adopting the principle which that paper now urges upon the consideration of her Majesty's ministers. For if there ever were questions in which the award of an arbiter was likely to be listened to with respect, they were the boundary questions left open by the Treaty of Ghent. There was no great amount of irritation in the minds of the contending parties. War had been tried, and found a very ineffectual solution of their difficulties. The Government of this country showed itself, on repeated occasions, anxious to make any reasonable concessions to facilitate a settlement. But now the case is very different. The nation has been wronged, the honor of its flag assailed, its right of asylum violated. Is it likely that we can submit to a protracted negotiation while the Southern Commissioners, who trusted to our protection, are treated as condemned prisoners at Fort Warren? *Is it likely that her Majesty's Ministers will dare to propose that another State should prescribe the reparation due to our wounded honor?* or that even the award of the arbiter would be accepted, if he so far ignored our rights and interests, and outraged our feelings, as to give judgment in favor of Capt. WILKES?

THE PREPARATIONS OF ENGLAND FOR WAR.

THEY PROCEED AS IF WAR HAD BEEN DECLARED.

Correspondence of the Manchester Guardian.

SUNDAY, Dec. 18.

The Government preparations go on precisely as if war were declared; and, should there be a necessity for declaring it, all the proclamations and necessary formalities are ready to be completed in a moment, so that our sharp opponents may have as little advantage as possible over us in point of time. The law officers, including the Queen's Advocate, and the Board of Customs, have been in communication with the Government respecting the regulations to be observed the moment we become belligerents. With respect to the naval and military preparations, there is no lack of activity. Admiral DACRES has been selected as second in command to Admiral MILNE, on the North American station. It is said that Sir HENRY KEPPEL is likely to have a "flying squadron," to harass the enemy; but this is very doubtful. I think, however, it is not unlikely that Sir JAMES HOPE, now commanding in the Chinese waters, may be sent for to be in readiness for serious hostilities. Although his name is prominently known to the public in connection with the disaster at the Peiho, there is no man who commands to as great an extent the confidence of the officers of the navy. Cool judgment and chivalry are united to an extraordinary degree in his person; and on sea he is undoubtedly the man to whom we should have to look in grave events. The first batch of troops has not yet been completely provided for in the way of transport; and three regiments, the Fifteenth, Seventeenth, and Ninety-sixth, which are actually under orders, have not been informed of their period of embarkation. It is likely that four battalions from the Mediterranean will be sent across the Atlantic in the ships of war destined to reinforce Admiral MILNE. The Guards leave London to-morrow morning, and sail in the evening from Southampton. Among the officers, of course, the sudden order has caused no little social disruption, but the occasion has reconciled all to the inconveniences. One gallant Captain had been but three days on his wedding tour, when he was telegraphed to return to duty; and curiously enough, there is a larger proportion of married men in the two battalions ordered out than in any others of the brigade. Gen. RUMLEY was at the Princess' Theatre, and had just seen the French Othello ordered off on urgent foreign service to Cyprus, when an orderly delivered to him an order from the Horse Guards, to be in readiness to go to Canada to command a brigade. Unlike the Shakespearian hero, however, the officers going to Canada are not allowed to take their wives with them, and Desdemona must remain at home, at least until the Spring. *Another indication of the serious character of the work expected is an order from the Horse Guards, that no servants other than soldier-servants shall go out with the officers.*

THE REINFORCEMENTS FOR CANADA.

The London *Times* congratulates the country on the rapidity and completeness with which a superior military organization has enabled them to meet the exigencies of the present crisis.

The *corps d'armée* which is preparing to leave their shores is a perfect little army, some 12,000 strong, and which, when landed, will be ready in all its branches to take the field at a day's notice. There are two battalions of the military train, with their wagons for land transport and ambulances for the sick, under the command of Col. KENNEDY, C. B., the ablest organizer of this branch of the service, created entirely since the Crimean war. There is to be a numerous staff of commissariat officers, and an extra complement of royal engineers for road and bridge making, and, if necessary, for hutting or superintending the erection of earthworks. The various corps that have either actually embarked, or will be dispatched as fast as means of transport can be provided for them, are the first battalion of Grenadier Guards, second battalion of Scots Fusileer Guards, first battalion of the Rifle Brigade, first battalion of the Fifteenth Foot, first battalion of the Sixteenth Foot, second battalion of the Sixteenth Foot, the Ninety-sixth Foot, and the second battalion of the Seventeenth. In addition to these, five batteries of field artillery, comprising thirty guns, and about 1,200 men, are also going; with five batteries of heavy ordnance, for garrison and citadel duty, equally strongly manned. There are also, as we have said, two battalions of the military train, with companies of Engineers, and companies of the new Commissariat and Hospital corps. At present these are all the troops under orders; but, if the present difficulty should result in open war with the North American Confederation, there is no doubt but that an army of from 35,000 to 40,000 men will be assembled in Canada by midsummer. When we look at the very short period which has elapsed since the news of the *San Jacinto* outrage reached this country, nothing is more striking than the rapidity with which this *corps d'armée* has been assembled for foreign service, and has either already embarked or will be on its way in the course of another week. Thus Capt. VESEY's No. 5 Battery, Fourth Brigade, only got its notice at Bristol on Tuesday; it was in Woolwich on Friday night, and sailed in the *Melbourne* on Saturday morning. This vessel also took out 30,000 Enfield rifles, with bayonets and other accoutrements, 2,500,000 rounds of Enfield ammunition, 1,500 rounds of Armstrong shell, a large number of smooth-bore heavy cannon, one complete battery of 12-pounders, one of nine for field service, with their carriages complete, as well as Capt. VESEY's own battery of Armstrongs, and a store of ice sledges, ice-saws, &c., for the St. Lawrence. On Thursday, the First Battalion of the Rifle Brigade, 950 strong, with Capt. LESLIE's No. 6 (Armstrong) Battery, Fourth Brigade, 260 strong, embarked on board the *Australasian*, and sailed in the evening for Canada. In this vessel also went a number of snow sledges, commissariat stores, Armstrong and smooth-bore guns, shot, shell, and cartridges for 13, 10, and 8-inch mortars. The first battalion of the Sixteenth Regiment will go this week in the *Persia*, which, like the rest, will take out large supplies of guns, shot, and shell, and, in addition, a number of our best drill Sergeants to "set up" the already fine regiments of Canadian Volunteers. Other transports are being taken up by the Government, and each day, in fact, for some time to come, will witness the departure of Canadian reinforcements.

The transports which have already sailed are to endeavor to get up the St. Lawrence as far as the Island of Bic; or, if possible, the Riviere du Loup. From the latter point they can be readily conveyed to any part of Upper Canada. Bic is forty-five miles lower down the river: and if it should be found impossible to gain a higher point, the men will be conveyed in snow sledges up to the Riviere du Loup station. Transports that may start from this country still later will not attempt the passage of the St. Lawrence without calling at Halifax to ascertain the latest intelligence as to the state of the ice in the river. If it should be found that not even Bic can be gained by the vessels which left last week and during this, the instructions to the commanders are to return and land their troops and stores at Halifax and St. John, where, in case of very severe weather, they will remain till the Spring. Of the military position of Canada the *Times* says:

"In Upper and Lower Canada just now there are only four of our regiments—the Seventeenth, Forty-seventh, and Thirtieth Regiments, with the fourth battalion of the Sixtieth Rifles, a small detachment of the One Hundredth Canadian Regiment, and two or three batteries of artillery. The colony, however, is by no means in the defenceless state which this small number of regular forces would imply. The system of volunteer regiments has attained as much perfection in Canada and in the lower provinces as among ourselves. Some of the regiments of Upper Canada are almost equal in drill to the best London corps, while the average weight and stature of the individuals composing these settler regiments is much higher than the standard of our metropolitan volunteers. The volunteer field batteries of Upper Canada, too, are especialy excellent, and, in fact, almost as well manned and horsed as the Royal Artillery. With our best drill sergeants at work upon such materials as these, the frontier towns ought to be well able to hold their own against any predatory inroads, and little more than this is likely to be attempted if the Winter should be so severe that our own troops cannot reach the St. Lawrence."

A London correspondent of the Manchester *Guardian* writes: "Sir W. WILLIAMS, of Kars, has not the same reputation among the military profession as he had with the public after the defence of Kars. But it is difficult to supersede him, and the next best thing is to provide him with a good staff. This has certainly been done. Col. WETHERALL, who will be the chief of his staff, is one of the most able men in the army. To Col. MACKENZIE, the Quartermaster-General, the same remark justly applies. The brigadiers are all men highly thought of in the profession; and those officers sent out on special service, to reorganize the militia and command outposts, comprise some of our most promising young soldiers. The official people still think the *Melbourne*—slow as she is—and the transports going out this and next week, may make the St. Lawrence, so as to save the arduous march across New-Brunswick, which is the only other alternative.

It is announced that Maj.-Gen. RUMLEY, the President of the Council of Military Education, and Brig.-Gen. RUSSELL have been appointed to the staff in Canada; and that the responsible post of Chief of the Staff has been intrusted to Col. WETHERALL, C. B. Gen. RUSSELL is an officer who greatly distinguished himself in India, while Col. WETHERALL served in the Crimea, in China (in 1857,) and in India during the mutiny. Lord FREDERICK PAULET will, it is stated, command the brigade of Guards ordered to North America. The men belonging to the Naval Reserve are not alone in their patriotic desire to give force to the attitude of the country in the present juncture. The London Rifle Brigade has offered to relieve the regular troops from all garrison duties within the City of London, while the officers of the 'Reserve' Constabulary, in Dublin, have volunteered for active service in Canada."

EMBARKATION OF TROOPS FOR CANADA.

Correspondence of the London Times.

SOUTHAMPTON, Wednesday, Dec. 18.

The embarkation of the first portion of the troops appointed to leave this port for service in Canada took place this afternoon. Previous to their arrival the *Adriatic* and the *Parana* were inspected by Col. SOMERSET, accompanied by Capt. PATEY, R. N., the Admiralty Superintendent at Southampton, and other officers. It was only a week ago that these vessels were officially accepted for this service, and the expedition with which they have been got ready for sea is highly creditable to all parties concerned. They have been completely fitted for officers and men, and supplied with water, &c., and an immense quantity of stores shipped, including three months' provisions for both troops and crew.

Shortly after 3 o'clock a special train arrived from Woolwich, bringing the No. 4 battery, tenth brigade, Royal Artillery, and also the first battalion Military Train. They were met at the terminus by the fine band of the Second Hants (Southampton) Rifle Volunteers, and as soon as the artillery had formed in marching order they proceeded from the station to the docks, the bands at their head, and marched direct on board the *Adriatic* steamer. The band immediately returned to the terminus, and paid a similar fraternal compliment to the Military Train. The battery of artillery is under the command of Capt. R. P. GALBERT, the other officers being Capt. H. S. ELLIOT, Lieuts. W. H. KING HARMAN, G. A. FRENCH, and E. BRADLEY, Assistant-Surgeon F. R. HOGG, with seven sergeants, four corporals, two trumpeters and 100 gunners. The military train consists of 300 non-commissioned officers and men, under command of Maj. HILL, the other officers being Maj. Johns, Capts. Buller and Harris; Lieuts. Lane, Williams, Clarke, Benthall and Roberts; Ensigns Crawford and Winckworth, Lieut. and Adjt. Cummin, Paymaster Bryson, Quartermaster Mitchell, and Surgeon FOX, with two staff clerks. The whole of the troops marched direct on board the steamer, and were all safely housed within half an hour after their arrival in the docks. Thousands of people were assembled on the quays, who enthusiastically cheered the brave fellows as they passed along.

The Eighteenth Company Royal Engineers, 120 in number, also arrived in two divisions, and embarked on board the *Parana*, which was lying at another part of the docks. The first party, consisting of 53 men, under Lieut. HERIOT MAITLAND, arrived at Chatham about half-past 1, and the other, comprising 67 men, commanded by Capt. EDWARD OSBORNE HEWITT, with Lieut. TOVEY and SIEVEWRIGHT, arrived from Portsmouth about 3 o'clock. These gallant servants of their country were also welcomed with a share of the popular enthusiasm as they proceeded to the steamer which will carry them across the Atlantic.

To-morrow (Thursday) the First Battalion of the Grenadier Guards, who go out in the *Adriatic*, and the Second Battalion of the Scots Fusileer Guards, who ship in the *Parana*, are expected to arrive here and embark about 11 o'clock. Gen. Lord FREDERICK PAULET, in command of the Grenadiers, and his Staff also go out in the *Adriatic*. The two vessels will go out of dock immediately after the embarkation, and probably proceed to sea the same night, or early on Friday morning.

The *Magdalena* has nearly completed her equipment for sea, and will, it is expected, embark the main body of her troops on Friday.

The armor-plated frigate *Royal Oak*, 51, 800-horse power, is now under the hands of the large number of shipwrights and other mechanics employed on her at Chatham dockyard. Already she has completed planking nearly up to her light line. The armor-plates will be laid on teak planking, eight inches in thickness, and beyond a certain part the planking will be of the enormous thickness of 12 inches. An improvement has been effected in the construction of the well for the screw, by which considerable strength will be imparted to the after portion of the vessel. She will be fitted with GRIFFITH's propeller. Although the *Royal Oak* is technically termed a 51-gun frigate, it is probable she will not be armed with more than 40 pieces, nearly the whole of which will be Armstrong guns. From the extraordinary efforts now being made to complete her, and the rapidity with which she is being pushed forward, there appears every proba-

[illegible] year. [illegible] ing at Chatham, are to be put on board the *Royal Oak*, the present intention of the Admiralty being to cut down the *Bulwark*, which is about three parts completed, and convert her into an armor-plated frigate similar to the *Royal Oak*, in which case she will not be ready to receive her engines on board for some time.

PEACE MOVEMENTS.

GREAT PRAYER MEETING IN LONDON.

From the London Times, Dec. 13.

Yesterday afternoon a meeting, convened by the Committee of the Evangelical Alliance, was held in Exeter Hall, for special prayer with reference to the present crisis of our relations with the United States. The large hall was well filled. Sir CULLING EARDLY, Bart., presided, and in opening the proceedings, said that on this occasion the less they addressed themselves to one another, and the more exclusively to God, the better. He should, therefore, confine himself to reading a statement which had been drawn up by the Committee convening the meeting, which, having been done, prayers were offered up successively by Rev. RIDLEY HERSCHEL, Rev. MARSHALL H. VINE, M.A., rector of St. Mary-le-Bow, and Hon. and Rev. BAPTIST NOEL, M. A. The last-named gentleman remarked that it would be a terrible stigma on Christianity if the two greatest Protestant nations in the world could not settle such a petty difference as that which had arisen, without the destruction of thousands of lives and millions of treasure. He hoped that both England and America might be led to see truly what was real international law, and that thus the present difficulties might be overruled for permanent good. Appropriate hymns were sung, and further prayer was offered by Rev. Thos. ALEXANDER, Presbyterian minister, and Rev. SAMUEL MINTON, M.A., of Worcester College, Oxford. Mr. MINTON dismissed the meeting with the blessing.

THE CONGREGATIONAL BOARD AND THE AMERICAN CRISIS.

A very numerous board was held on Tuesday evening, Dec. 10, when the subject of the American difficulty and the danger of war engaged the serious and anxious attention of the members. After full consideration it was agreed that a memorial should be prepared deprecating war, and imploring that in the event of diplomatic negotiations failing to adjust the differences between the two Governments, arbitration by some friendly and impartial Power, to be mutually chosen, should be adopted. The memorial, when prepared, is to be presented to Earl RUSSELL by a deputation from the board.

AFFAIRS IN UTAH.

Session of the Legislature—The Governor's Message—Miscellaneous News.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

GREAT SALT LAKE CITY, Thursday, Dec. 12, 1861.

The Legislature of Utah assembled for its annual session, in the Court-house of this city, on Monday last. In regard to abstract political opinion, perhaps the component parts of this unique assembly are of as heterogeneous a character as the greatest cosmopolite could desire to see in conjunction. Democrats and Republicans, Abolitionists and believers in the Divine ordination of Slavery, Northerners and Southerners, Down-Easters and Far-Westers, all lights and shades of politics and of political neutrality, in every quarter of the globe, perhaps, have their representatives in the law-making department in Utah. This of course occasions vigorous antagonistic talk, so far as political doctrine is concerned. But, be it wisdom or folly, when it comes to action, these naturally discordant elements have the faculty of unanimity to a surprising degree, almost amounting, at times, to fusion—there being, apparently, not the shadow of an "opposition." This seems to be one of the many peculiar peculiarities of Mormon action politically or religiously, though in reality these terms may convey to them the idea of a "distinction without a difference."

Here the "upper House" sits below the "lower House," and the former condescended to ascend to the latter on Tuesday, for the purpose of a meeting in joint session to hear the Governor's Message. His Excellency took a seat at the Speaker's desk, between the President of the Council and the Speaker of the House, Hon. D. H. WELLS and Hon. JOHN TAYLOR, respectively, and read the expected document.

The Message was a voluminous affair, and would perhaps fill half the columns of the *Deseret News*. Having been only three days in the Territory, his Excellency could not be expected to have got the hang of local affairs, so they were summarily disposed of by reserving them for consideration in special messages to come. The eventful "state of the Nation," federally and nationally, occupied the Governor's pages of foolscap. A lengthy history of the Nation's present unhappy struggle, with the remote and immediate causes thereof, was listened to with very great attention, but with no demonstration of assent or dissent. Compromises and Kansas figured considerably. Neither the North nor the South were wholly free from blame. The extreme Anti-Slavery Party of the North was not careful to respect the "institution" of the South, and the South was too much given to scoff at the deep-seated convictions of the North. Neither section could let each other alone. If the provisions of the Kansas-Nebraska act had been faithfully carried out, the present shipwreck might have been avoided. But, for wise purposes, Providence had permitted the existing struggle to arise. However, there was no question as to the responsibility of the initiation of war—Dixie must shoulder that entirely. But for Southern haste to fight, matters would have been settled by peaceable negotiation, but now it would be virtual abdication of power for the Government to fail to defend the Constitution—its duty must be discharged by compelling rebellion to lay down its arms. This was the great purpose of the Government. "Men of Utah," said the Governor, "do you stand ready to assist?" "Men of Utah," came rhetorically three or four times. Did they like the resolution to conquer the rebels? Were they ready to second it? Should this great and beneficent Government be destroyed by its own sons? What answer would they make? He need not ask them. They had conquered the desert they now inhabit, and this augured well for strenuous support in conquering rebellion. Though of peculiar faith, and isolated from their brethren east in many particulars, yet they were bound together by one common ancestry and language. He would rejoice, nevertheless, to hear their answer as to how they would stand. Next came some formidably patriotic quotations from speeches by BRIGHAM YOUNG and D. R. WELLS. The country and Constitution were still the same. Were not their sentiments still the same? Wouldn't they be arrayed on the side of the Government? If wisdom and prudence characterized the action of the Federal Government, it must conquer ultimately. When the ringleaders of the rebellion were defeated or destroyed, the mass of the South would see clearer, and soon lay down their arms. The true interests of the Territory lay with the Federal Government. Its paucity of inhabitants, and isolated position, necessitated protection from the Federal Government. His own purpose was, to make his home here, be one amongst the people, and faithfully and fearlessly discharge his duties. He would magnify the law. He asked and expected their cordial support. Then came the pith of his Message. He wished the Legislature to consider the portion of National taxes which by last Congress were laid upon the Territory—whether the Legislature would direct their assessment and collection, or it should be left to the action of such officers as the Government might appoint. He recommended memorials to Congress for appropriations to build bridges, make roads, establish stations, and institute agents on the great Overland Mail and emigrant route, for protection of property and travelers; also, for the establishment of small military posts on the route, for similar purposes. Furthermore, he thought it good to present memorials to that body, in favor of the Pacific Railroad; for the extinguishment of the Indian title to such lands as were desirable for the prosperity of the interests of the Territory; for the survey of the public lands, and the establishment of Land Offices; and for free donations of land to settlers, as in other Territories. He presented the subject of education, particularly as related to Common Schools, and concluded by urging loud and earnest enunciations of American principles.

As before remarked, there was no visible expression of assent or dissent. But this, too, is greatly indicative of Mormon habits. A supplementary "amen" is their most common form of approbation.

I believe most of the members considered the major part of the message in the light of extraneous matter, more suited to a message of the President of the United States than to a message of a Governor of one of the most remote territories of those States. Some remarked that they had read a little American history and glanced at the current newspapers, and had obtained thereby a tolerable idea of the state of the war question, causes and effects.

However, I believe one thousand copies of the message were ordered to be printed, for liberal distribution among the people.

On Christmas evening a grand complimentary ball is to be held, to which the "authorities" and principal citizens, Jew and Gentile, are to be invited. The Social Hall is under renovation for the purpose. Tickets at a moderate figure—$5 per couple; extra ladies, $1 each.

The weather is delightful.

THE NEW-YEAR'S ANNIVERSARY.

Fair Weather—General Good Humor, and Happy Auspices for the Commencement of 1862.

Wednesday was, atmospherically, more charming than any yet experienced of the present Winter season, and, if it was to be accepted as a promise of the year, every heart in the whole land may well rejoice.

The dead old year was to have gone out in gloom. MERRIAM and the astronomers had predicted bad weather and a deep solar eclipse. Then the bankers, far and near, had taken a share in the contract of the occasion to diversify the festive scene with a round suspension of specie payments—and what with dull rumors from Paducah and the continued growlings of the British Lion, the public mind of these United States, and particularly of their Island Metropolis, was to be dark with forebodings on the first day of the dawning year. Some one less reverent than facetious has declared that the supernal powers have special watch and ward over little children, tipsy men and the United States, at those moments when they least can help themselves. If the saying be faulty in some particulars, the history of our country, at least, would seem to verify its most important premise, for, on all occasions, when, according to human foresight and acknowledged and accepted rules, we should be in a very bad way, indeed, the American eagle finds space and sunshine to flap his noble wings rather more grandly than ever before.

So it seems to have been on the closing of the year gone by, and the opening of the new one. The eclipse of the sun, gazed for by thousands, was not beheld; news of fresh successes and of no reverses to our arms dispelled all idle contrary rumors; the growl of paternal Lion subsided into the comfortable mutterings of a holiday slumber; the specie suspension turned out to be a wise and timely easing of the public engine, and even the predicted storm-clouds in the sky gave us only cheery, bracing appetizing breezes, hanging the sunset horizon with gold and crimson, and crowning the cope of the midnight heavens with a crest of stars.

1861 the compeer of 1776 in importance on the roll of American history, went out right royally and over the hundred listening homes of our great City, his requiem was sounded from Trinity steeple. While prayer for peace was ascending from that most *bizarre* of all conventicles, Barnum's Museum, the midnight chimes from Trinity were charming the outer silence with the patriotic melodies of the land, which the last year has so gloriously illustrated, and lulling the dawn with "Home, Sweet Home."

As the veracious chronicles of Diedrich Knickerbocker gleefully relate, New-Year's Day has ever been an honored festival to the burghers of Nieuw-Amsterdam and Manhattan, from the earliest period of colonial history, has made it a season of social jollity, household reunion, pious petitions for continued and renewed prosperity, and wholesale junketings for young and old. The people of our goodly City, with its modern and unpoetic name of New-York, have not, amid their oceans of "egg nogg" and "flip," their mountains of mince pies and towers of maccaroons, and their general rapid style of lavish ornament and wild display, discarded all the customs of their quaint ancestors, who laid the foundations of the State in the days of "dough-nuts" and "cider," "zweebacken" and "schnapps." The visiting and gossiping of the ancient time are still kept up, and yesterday formed no exception to the usage.

The war has somewhat thinned our home circles, but in the immensity of the American Babylon there was scarcely a perceptible difference, although the tone and style of private festivities were greatly subdued.

The enchanting weather, which brought June to make a call on January, rendered the chief est glory of the day the outside pageant of the streets and fields and rivers.

Santa Claus, indeed, dispensed his usual bounty, and the domestic landscape was nearly, if not altogether, as bright as usual; but his Honor the Mayor did not receive his friends at the City Hall, as has been the custom hitherto, and the celebrations at churches and public institutions did not vie with the universal outburst of Christmas. But the shipping on the Bay was gay, for miles and miles, with the flags of all nations, and the war vessels in the harbor proper echoed with the music of bands and the tumult of a merry-making: the long thoroughfares of town were thronged with neatly-dressed pedestrians, and the cars, stages and ferry-boats, in all directions of their traffic, were densely packed with pleasure-seekers on their way to the environs. Central Park, Bergen Hill, and the Brooklyn and Hoboken ponds, attracted armies of skaters, and the ringing of merry laughter and steel runners awoke the echoes of the adjacent country far and near. Bright eyes, rosy cheeks and hearty greetings made all forget the hour of public perils and the exceeding exhilaration of an atmosphere that had all the sparkle and freshness of an early Summer morning, without its threatened sultriness, almost made up for the entire absence of a Winter snow. No bad intelligence marred the festive symmetry of the occasion, and instances of riot and disorder were scarcely heard of, even in those quarters of the City most crowded with population.

The Germans who had, according to custom, signalized the departure of the old year and the coming of its successor with the firing of small arms and with vocal serenades, continued their frolic of the holiday week to the last. They, and those who, like them, made the day a victory over Time, kept up the semblance of a peaceful Waterloo throughout the twenty-four hours, with squibs and fire-crackers,—rendering it a huge advertisement for BANGS & BROTHERS.

Mathematically, perpendiculars and rectangles were not constantly observed, but EUCLID's great problem of the peculiar qualities of the hypothenuse was splendidly solved and demonstrated by some of "the golden youth" of the metropolis.

Morally, after all, the day was an auspicious one, and as its smiles still gladden the young year, may not all loyal hearts believe that the solemn bells which ushered its birth

"Rang out the old"

of everything unworthy the Republic,

"Rang in the new"

of all that shall make it grand and glorious among the nations, and gave us earnest of that

"Better time that is to be"

THE DAY AT THE INSTITUTIONS.

The day passed off in the usual manner at the various public and private charitable institutions.

The Randall's Island children and the inmates of the Insane Asylum were visited by the Commissioners of Charities and Correction, and were treated to an excellent and sumptuous dinner.

The lads attached to the Newsboy's Home received a liberal supply of clothing and shoes from their kind friends, which occasioned much rejoicing in their midst. Their festive wants were also bountifully attended to.

SAILOR'S WATCH MEETING.

A refreshing season, conducted with that enthusiasm and earnestness characteristic of sailors, either in a good or bad cause, marked the solemn passage of the Old into the New Year.

At 8 o'clock, the aisles and pews of the Mariner's Church, corner of Madison and Catharine streets, began to fill, and prayer and singing, in good old fashioned style, continued until 10 o'clock, when an intermission took place. After this, experiences full of warning import were given,—old sailors telling how they had been driven into port by the storm of their own passions,—the port of safety, where Jesus stood beckoning them in, against their will, and how they were rubbed, and grounded, and dashed against the rocks by the breakers of sin, till they were glad to lay hold on the rope of the hope of salvation, which was in mercy offered them.

As the clock marked the hour of 12 all were bowed in silent prayer. The scene, though roughly cast in some of its features, was most impressive, and must have thrown at least one bright ray amid the halo encircling the new-born year.

Interesting allusion was made by the presiding clergyman to the members of the Church now on board our ships of war, and an earnest prayer offered that the twenty vessels which carried each one or more of their number, might be blessed by their influence as missionaries.

The meeting closed with the beautiful and appropriate hymn, "Lord dismiss us with thy blessing."

MAYOR'S OFFICE ON NEW-YEAR'S DAY.

Contrary to long established custom, New-Year's Day was not officially observed by the Mayor in the reception of the calls of his fellow-citizens. The office was closed, and, as it was generally known outside of the City Hall, there were very few who called only to be disappointed in their expectation of taking leave of the retiring Mayor.

AT THE CENTRAL PARK.

Central Park yesterday was thronged with people. Equipages of every description lined the drives, and equestrians of all kinds trotted along the rides. The ponds though were the great point of attraction. Early in the morning, skaters began to assemble, and were soon skimming over the surface of the frozen lake.

Quite a goodly number of ladies gladdened the scene by their presence, and indulged in the healthy pastime of skating. Quadrille parties were formed, and the "Lancers" were skimmed through. Figure 8's were cut upon the ice by fancy skaters, who would occasionally glide backward, then forward, and every other way imaginable, that at last you began to think they were more at home upon skates than upon their ordinary foot-gear. Tyro's were also there, who, if they did occasionally tumble, would laugh just as loud as those who were more expert, scramble up and off again, determined to persevere and overcome the skater's art.

In fact, all class of skaters were represented. Even the younster, in all the pride and glory of his first pair of skates—new that morning, having just been left by Santa Claus—was on the ice. It was, indeed, the skaters' carnival. But so much fun was too good to last. The morning was warm, so warm, indeed, that the ice became so soft that it was easily cut up and became unpleasant to skaters. By 1 o'clock the "ball" was lowered; the cars signified the fact, stating that the lower pond was still in a condition to skate upon. And so it was, but it was not the ice of the morning. Between fifty and sixty thousand people must have visited the ponds yesterday.

NEW YEAR'S DAY IN BROOKLYN.

The observance of New Year's day in this City, so far as the suspension of ordinary business, was quite general, but the long-established and much-abused custom of making indiscriminate calls, was, for once, more honored in the breach than in the observance. Nevertheless, there was a goodly number of callers to be seen in the streets, and this branch of New Year's day business was fairly and moderately attended to. It was a common remark, that by far a larger number of families than usual had their card-baskets swung outside, as an indication that no visitors would be received; and among these were many families who have heretofore given special *éclat* to this occasion. In some cases, houses were closed against visitors on account of recent deaths in the families; others to discourage the custom, but a still larger class, we apprehend, were influenced by economic motives. If outward indications can be relied upon, those who made professional rounds among their friends, did not, to any great extent, reflect discredit upon other similar occasions. They undoubtedly indulged unhesitatingly in partaking of the good things set before them—particularly of the drinkables. In evidence of this—we have it from high authority—every ash barrel in the city was upset last night, and the contents rolled into the street at the mercy of the high wind that prevailed all night. The contractors for cleaning the streets are not in the best of humor to-day, in all probability. Neither are some housekeepers we wot of whose parlors have been sanded by the debris from the ash barrels.

The lovers of out-door sports were disappointed in their usual pleasures. The weather was so mild that skating was utterly impracticable; and, as for sleighing, that was impracticable too, for there was no snow. A few people, in a spirit of revenge, and having nothing better to do, unhoused their base ball paraphernalia, and indulged in that unseasonable game to a limited extent. But there was no spirit in the game—the players felt that it was out of season.

The new County officers, having taken the oath of office the day before, assumed, informally, the duties of their respective offices. These officers are as follows: Registrar—Hugh McLaughlin. County Clerk—John N. Stearns. Coroner—Dr. Thomas P. Norris. Superintendent of the Poor—Ditmas Jewell. Justices of the Sessions—Messrs. Stilwell and Hoyt.

There were no accidents during the day to mar the occasion.

NEW-YEAR'S DAY IN HUDSON COUNTY.

New-Year's day was quite generally observed, and the custom of calling was participated in by very many, though apparently not to the extent of previous years. The absence of exhilarating beverages on many of the festive boards was a noticeable feature, and the indulgence of stimulants appeared to have been partaken of with moderation. In the evening, many of the dwellings in Jersey City and Hoboken were brilliantly illuminated, and merry parties were on their rounds to tender the compliments of the season.

A large number of persons, both male and female, resorted to Lake Lincoln, on Bergen Hill, and spent the fore part of the day in skating. The mild weather, however, softened the ice, and soon after noon it was abandoned. The change of the weather during the night has again given the lake a smooth, glassy surface.

The Weather.

THE GALE—DAMAGE DONE TO THE SHIPPING.

The weather on New Year's morning was very fine, with a light wind from southwest—the barometer standing 29 7-10, indicating a blow, which about 12½ P. M. commenced from southwest, and during the evening shifted to west northwest, and has been blowing furiously since from that quarter. There have been numerous trifling cases of damage among the shipping in exposed situations. At the Union Stores at Brooklyn, where were moored numerous prize vessels, there was a lively time. The ship *North Carolina* parted all her hawsers and has her stern badly stove in. The brig *Mary McRae* parted all her moorings, stove rails, carried away house on deck, and received considerable other damage. The brig *Delta* had her stern frame carried away, and is badly chafed. The main rail and several stanchions of the brig *Sarah Stark* are gone, and she is badly chafed. The schooner *Lynchburgh* is badly chafed, and had a boat stove to pieces. The bark *Sally McGee* lost her figure-head, and had her stern badly stove. The bark *Winfred* is considerably damaged. The brig *H. C. Brooks* has the whole of her stern frame gone, and part of her rudder, and at one time it was thought she would sink.

The schooner *Mary Clinton* is considerably damaged. The bark *Gen. Green* also received some damage. A British schooner had her stern stove in, and the whole of her bow gone above water. There are several others lying at these piers more or less damaged.

Most of the vessels that were at anchor in the North River, dragged their anchors, but we believe without damage.

From a visit among the piers on the North River, which were most exposed to the gale, but trifling damage was sustained among the shipping.

The canal boat *Franklin*, lying at Pier No. 38, being so much exposed was badly chafed against the dock and sunk. Other barges and canal boats lying between Piers Nos. 36 and 38, were somewhat damaged, but to no considerable extent. The oyster boats and vessels lying at the foot of Spring-street, suffered more or less damage, but none seriously; one small sloop lost her bowsprit.

The steamship *Columbia* arrived this morning from Havana, and anchored opposite Pier No. 38, near the New-Jersey shore, but the force of the gale has caused her to drag her anchors a considerable distance, and up to this hour (1 P. M) she was still dragging. The U. S. gunboat *Potomska*, which has been lying

The New-York Times.

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THE NEW-YORK TIMES.

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We cannot undertake to return rejected Communications.

VOLUNTARY CORRESPONDENCE, containing important news, solicited from any quarter of the world; if used, will be liberally paid for.

Amusements this Evening.

BROOKLYN ATHENÆUM—PRECIOSA.

WINTER GARDEN—LAKES OF KILLARNEY—COURTSHIP OF CONNECTICUT—BORN TO GOOD LUCK.

LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE—LITTLE TOM—ROBINSON CRUSOE.

WALLACK'S THEATRE—PLAYING WITH FIRE.

NIBLO'S GARDEN—HERRMANN'S SOIREES DE PRESTIDIGITATION.

HOPE CHAPEL—CAPT. WILLIAMS' SOUTH SEA WHALING VOYAGE.

BOWERY THEATRE—GREAT NATIONAL CIRCUS.

BARNUM'S MUSEUM—LIVING HIPPOPOTAMUS, LIVING WHALE, &c., AT ALL HOURS—DRAMATIC PERFORMANCES at 3 and 7½ o'clock.

THE WONDERS OF THE WORLD—No. 563 Broadway

EXHIBITION OF PAINTINGS—FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE POOR—No. 548 Broadway.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

THE REBELLION.

The first day of the new year was marked by the surrender of MASON and SLIDELL to British authority, and their departure from the shores of the United States for the British dominions. The matter was managed very quietly. A steamtug took them from Fort Warren at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, and conveyed them to Provincetown, Cape Cod, where they were placed on board the British gunboat *Rinaldo*, which was there in waiting, and left about 5 o'clock in the afternoon. The wind has since been blowing a hurricane.

New-Year's day, our Washington correspondent informs us, was also marked by especial cordiality on the part of the diplomatic corps. All the foreign Ministers, with the members of their legations, were present at the official reception at the White House, and all subsequently called upon the Secretary of State. The presence of the entire British and French legations at both places was especially noticed, and was thought a good augury.

Within the last two days we have had rumors of the death of both Gen. MCCLELLAN and Gen. MCCALL—all of which, we are glad to say, were without foundation. Gen. MCCLELLAN has at no time been dangerously ill, and is now nearly recovered from his temporary indisposition; and Gen. MCCALL is still unscathed by rebel bullets.

Advices from the Lower Potomac inform us that the rebels have erected still another battery, the site of which is on 'Possum Nose, a point above any of the others.

An escaped slave who has reached Fortress Monroe, reports that a large rebel force encampment Great Bethel has been broken up in alarm, and that the troops have retreated to Yorktown, under the impression that an advance would be made immediately by Gen. WOOL. A number of National officers, who have been in prison at Richmond, arrived at the Fortress on Wednesday, by flag of truce. They confirm the report that some two hundred and fifty prisoners are there awaiting an opportunity to come down.

By the steam-transport *Ariel*, which arrived at this port yesterday, we have advices from Port Royal and Beaufort to the 28th ult. There is nothing new of special importance reported. The rebels remained quiet.

The *Constitution* still lies in Boston harbor with her stores and cargo on board, awaiting the arrival of the troops which she is to take to Ship Island. A squadron of mounted rifle rangers and a full company of light cavalry, each provided with picked horses, are to accompany the expedition. The steamer *Sazon* has also been fitted up, and armed with two formidable columbiads to convoy the *Constitution* when she shall sail. Three thousand of the men embarked yesterday.

A dispatch to the Chicago *Times*, dated St. Louis, Dec. 30, gives ground to hope for further good news from Missouri. Ten thousand troops, it is stated, under Gens. CURTIS, ASBOTH, and WYMAN, have left Rolla for some unknown destination;—possibly to garrison Carthage and Springfield, and prevent PRICE'S return to the Osage, if they cannot force him to give battle.

Dispatches to the Cincinnati papers, dated at Louisville, Dec. 30, contradict the rumored passage of Green River by Gen. MCCOOK'S Division. The bridge is not yet completed. On the 30th, Gen. BUELL with his Staff left Louisville for Munfordsville, and this movement, taken in connection with the fact that the National force has nearly all been brigaded, was the foundation for the reports of engagements. Capt. ALBERT BACON, who, the Philadelphia papers stated, fell in an engagement at Paducah, was killed at Calhoun, in an encounter between a large force of the rebels and a picket guard. Twenty of the latter were taken prisoners.

A dispatch to the Chicago *Tribune*, dated at Cairo, Dec. 30, states that Capt. NOLEMAN, with four companies of cavalry, went to the vicinity of Bertrand, on Saturday evening, and captured twenty-two rebels and fifty horses and mules. One of the number (Capt. GATLY) is one of the most desperate characters in Southeast Missouri.

Our dispatches from the Upper Potomac, represent that the rebel force at Leesburgh has recently been considerably augmented, the number being now estimated at 6,000. They are understood to be busily engaged in erecting new fortifications. They are also believed to be fortifying in the vicinity of Martinsburgh, the advance of Gen. KELLY'S forces from Romney along the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad rendering them apprehensive of an attack. It is understood that the railroad has already been opened for a distance of seven miles south of Hancock, a strong guard rendering the work secure as fast as it is restored. A rebel force made an attack upon the guard on Tuesday afternoon, but they were repulsed with the loss of twenty killed. The rebels still make occasional demonstrations at Dam No. 5, but without effecting anything. The National battery there is too formidable for them.

A report is in circulation, in Cincinnati, that Clarksville, Tenn., had been bombarded and destroyed by Federal gunboats, that had ascended the Cumberland River. If true, Nashville must feel anything but pleasant or safe.

Sutton, the chief town of Braxton County, in Western Virginia, about midway between Clarksburg and Carnifex, has fallen into the hands of the rebels. The Cincinnati *Gazette* states the fact, but gives no particulars of the movement which led to this result.

The rebel Brigadier-General in the army of the Potomac who recently committed suicide, was PHILIP ST. GEORGE COCKE. His name was affixed to various proclamations and general orders before BEAUREGARD was ordered from Charleston. He should not be confounded with Brig.-Gen. PHILIP ST. GEORGE COOKE, a loyal Virginian, recently promoted to the command of the cavalry in the National army.

The Baltimore *News Sheet*, the chief rebel organ in the loyal States, republishes a letter addressed to the Captain-General of Cuba by CHAS. J. HELM, who claims to be the accredited representative of the Confederate States of America to the Spanish, English and Danish possessions in the West Indies. It is simply a labored attempt to demonstrate that the blockade of the Southern coast is ineffectual, and that it should not be regarded.

The Canadian Press comments upon the release of Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL in the same spirit which has prompted its various representations hitherto in their treatment of our difficulties. The *Leader* uses the most abusive language at its command. It pronounces the surrender one of the "greatest collapses since the beginning of time," and has much to say of the "humiliation" of the National Government. The *Globe* talks much more moderately and heartily congratulates its readers on the result, and the Montreal *Gazette* speaks of it as a "bitter, bitter pill for the fire-eaters to cram down their noisy throats."

FROM HAVANA AND MEXICO.

By the arrival of the steamship *Columbia*, we have received files of the Havana papers, and letters from our correspondents, announcing the highly important intelligence that the flag of Spain floats, once more, from the battlements of San Juan de Ulloa, and over the entire City of Vera Cruz, which was surrendered on Monday, Dec. 16, to the Spanish combined naval and military expedition, under Gens. GASSET and RUBALCABA, without one shot having been fired or one blow struck for the honor of Mexico. Havana was, of course, to all outward appearance, in ecstacies of rejoicing at this unlooked-for bloodless, yet important success, particularly as it is entirely a Spanish triumph. The third and last division of the Spanish fleet, which left the harbor of Havana on the 2d ultimo, after fair weather and an easy run, on the 4th joined the divisions that had preceded it. By the 8th, the advanced portion of the fleet anchored off Anton Lizardo, where, on Tuesday, the 10th, it was joined by the remainder of the whole force. After a visit from the French and English consuls, who came off from Vera Cruz on a French steamer, the Spanish commanders held a council of war, and decided to attempt a landing in force on the ensuing day, unless the place should be surrendered upon a formal demand to be made by certain officers detailed for the purpose. A heavy northerly gale delayed the execution of this plan until the 14th, when Gen. URAGA, the Governor of Vera Cruz, expressed his willingness, in the presence of such overwhelming force, to evacuate the place, merely asking twenty-four hours' time to complete his withdrawal. On the 15th he retired with all his troops, leaving the fortress of Ulloa with all its splendid armament and munitions and the "heroic" city to the invader. On the 16th, the Spanish officers and, on the 17th, their forces formally landed and took possession amid the acclamations, as their haughty bulletins declare, of the entire people, headed by their local magistrates. Gen. GASSET, at the latest date, had issued proclamations full of promises, had placed the city and environs under martial law, and was reorganizing the Government on a military basis. The fall of the first port of Mexico is complete.

FROM EUROPE.

Our details of European advices this morning are one day later than those previously received. There is but little additional news of interest. American vessels at Havre were arming themselves with rifled ordnance, in order to repel the privateers which were finding rendezvous in England. Our Paris correspondent says that the astonishment of the French knew no bounds when it was discovered that President LINCOLN, in his Message, did not even mention the *Trent* case; but they consoled themselves with the thought that he had *forgotten* it, and that the Americans were the most wonderful people on the face of the earth. It is the belief in France that England intends to convert the Southern States into an English colony; and in that case France would join with England so as to get a share of the spoils in the Louisiana region. M. XAVIER RAYMOND, on the other hand, publishes an article in the *Journal des Debats*, showing that the Northern Americans have commenced the war for territorial aggrandizement, and that they desire to annex the wealthy provinces stretching from Canada to the North Pole! He does not think, however, that they will succeed. It is very evident that the intelligent French Press is yet capable of being taught in regard to some matters.

From England there is nothing additional of importance. The Ministerial and Tory organs were still busy in misrepresenting and falsifying everything American. The London *Herald* wants immediate action, and desires that operations should be as quick and desperate as England can make them. The London *Times* publishes a false and satanic article, describing the Northern people as little better than savages. It objects to the operations of the stone fleet, and says that such doings are acts of hostility to the whole human race; and impliedly threatens foreign interference in regard thereto. In regard to military preparations, everything had been got ready for war, and even the proclamations and other formalities were all ready to be completed at a moment. Additional ships of war were being got in readiness. What the effect the surrender of MASON and SLIDELL may be, it is impossible to foresee. We shall know in about a fortnight.

CONGRESS YESTERDAY.

In the Senate, after the presentation of petitions, Mr. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, offered a resolution, which was agreed to, asking the President to transmit to the Senate all the correspondence which has taken place since the Congress of Paris relative to neutral and belligerent rights on the ocean. The Committee on Finance was instructed to inquire into the expediency of establishing a distinct bureau for the Treasury Department, to regulate and control the Mint. The Committee on Military Affairs was instructed to inquire into the necessity of modifying the act of July, 1861, increasing the military status of the United States. An inquiry was addressed to the Secretary of War relative to cavalry regiments. Mr. WILSON introduced a bill relating to sutlers in volunteer regiments.

In the House the Secretary of War was interrogated as to why certain New-York regiments at the capital were yet without arms, and whether any legislation is necessary before arms can be procured. A bill providing for the defence of the City of Philadelphia and the Delaware River, was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs. Mr. VALLANDIGHAM asked leave to introduce a resolution, asking for a variety of information from the Secretary of the Treasury, but he was not indulged in his desire. Both Houses adjourned until Monday.

GENERAL NEWS.

A dispatch from San Francisco, dated the 1st inst., announces the departure of the steamer *Golden Age* for Panama, with $500,000 in treasure for this City.

Brig.-Gen. WRIGHT, in command of the Department of the Pacific, on Nov. 22, issued a general order instructing Quartermasters and Commissaries under his control, in making their purchases, to give the preference to individuals who had subscribed to the National loan, so far as practicable.

New-Year's day, as usual, was generally observed in this City, although there did not appear to be as much visiting as on some former years. There was skating at Central Park in the early part of the day, but in the afternoon the ice had become melted and rendered that sport impracticable. At the various public and private charitable institutions the day was also appropriately observed.

The heavy blow yesterday morning occasioned some slight disasters among the shipping in this City and in Brooklyn. At the Union Docks in the latter city, a number of vessels were badly chafed, and one or two lost their bowsprits. A canal-boat, lying at the foot of Canal-street, sunk. Most of the vessels lying in the stream dragged their anchors.

Yesterday, the Chamber of Commerce held its regular monthly meeting. Mr. ROBERT B. MINTURN was elected Chairman of the Committee on Arbitration, in place of Mayor OPDYKE, resigned. A discussion, of an animated nature, took place upon the new Tariff bill, and a resolution was passed that the Executive Committee be "instructed to prepare a remonstrance to its being made applicable to goods in bond, imported prior to the passage of said law, and goods on shipboard prior to the 7th of August." Mr. CHARLES H. MARSHALL reported, in reference to the application to the Secretary of the Navy for armed vessels to be sent to the coast of Europe for the protection of American vessels, that one had already been sent, and that more would be dispatched thither in a few days. A Committee was appointed to inspect STEVENS' Floating Battery to-morrow.

The Board of Councilmen held a brief and unimportant meeting yesterday afternoon. No matters of any public interest were disposed of, and at an early hour an adjournment was had until Saturday at 5 P. M.

Hon. ALFRED ELY arrived at the St. Nicholas Hotel at nine o'clock last evening, and was cordially welcomed by hosts of friends—not the least important among whom was his wife, whom he greeted for the first time since his capture, about eight months since. In response to a serenade, which was improvised, Mr. ELY made a brief address.

According to a dispatch from Louisville to the Cincinnati *Gazette* there are now from fifteen hundred to two thousand contrabands in different camps of the Union army in Kentucky, in private employ. Large quantities of counterfeit gold coinage of New-Orleans, 1861, are in circulation in those counties of the State where rebels are in power. Adjutant-Gen. FINNEL reports 28,079 Kentucky volunteers. All Kentucky regiments will be immediately mustered in.

Capt. E. B. WARD writes from Washington to the Detroit *Advertiser* that he has obtained an order for sending two companies of infantry, with several cannon, to the Saut St. Mary, and, if the rivers and lakes keep open a week longer he hopes to get them through to their destination. The object of this force is to form a nucleus for a small army to defend the St. Mary's Canal from destruction during the Winter, in case we have a war with England.

Ninety-nine divorces were granted at Chambers of the Supreme Court during the year 1861, and fourteen at the Common Pleas.

The Stock Market for the New-Year opened weak and somewhat unsettled, yesterday, prices having fallen off ¼@½ ₩ cent. Later in the day, there was a steadier feeling, and part of the decline on New-York Central and Erie was recovered. Gold, 101¼@101½; Exchange, 112¼@112½.

A fair business was transacted, yesterday, in Flour, while the sales of Grain were light. Prices of Flour and Wheat were very firm. Corn was depressed. The movements in Provisions were restricted. Whisky was in good request and was firmer. Rio Coffee and Spirits of Turpentine were in more demand, the latter at advanced rates. Sugars, Molasses, Resin, Oils, Hemp, Metals, Rice, Salt, Spices and Tobacco were quiet. The Freight market was also inactive. Additional trade statistics, for the year 1861, are given in our commercial columns this morning.

The European Expedition to Mexico—The Spaniards in Vera Cruz.

What the Spaniards under CORTEZ did three and a half centuries ago, those of the nineteenth century have repeated. They have landed without resistance at Vera Cruz. That city and the castle of San Juan d'Ulloa are in their possession; their armada rides secure in the harbor; the task of conquest has been begun with the happiest auspices. It would seem but the easiest task in the world to proceed from the coign of vantage thus obtained into the interior of the country, as the great leader whose traditions they cherish and endeavor to revive, proceeded with a tithe of the force over the same track from victory to victory. But the tradition is more easily cherished than revived. The great difference is that the present *is* the nineteenth, and not the sixteenth century. The contest has to be waged, not against Aztec and Toltec, aghast at the familiar resources of civilized warfare; but against a people trained by incessant internal dissensions to the use of arms; embittered by every historical recollection against the invader, and taught by the issue of the wars of independence to regard themselves as more than a match for his utmost strength. In these different circumstances, the successors of CORTEZ may find very unexpected results.

The truth is, the contest has materially changed its character since the Spaniards embarked in it. In signing the Treaty of Paris, Great Britain and France acted upon the assumption that their respective ultimata would be rejected by the JUAREZ Cabinet; that the law of July, postponing payments upon the foreign debt, would be persisted in; and that European commissions would be excluded from the custom-houses. Those powers consequently persuaded Spain to let them be sharers in the expedition; and Spain, compelled to yield, diminished the scale of the expedition in ratio to the help thus thrust upon her. The joint expedition would suffice to execute all the Court of Madrid planned. The Spanish fraction would alone be unequal to the enterprise. But since France and England became partners, Mexico has disappointed the expectations entertained in regard to her obstinacy. The law of July has been repealed. The indemnity demanded by the French and British Governments has been guaranteed; the tariff has been reduced; and there is every reason to believe that the only other demand of the two Governments, the sequestration of a certain portion of the revenues for the payment of foreign debts, has been granted. In this case Spain is left to carry on the campaign by herself, as it is impossible to suppose her allies will insist upon hostilities when Mexico has conceded every term they exacted as a condition of peace. Their fleets and armies may remain to watch the war, and protect the commerce which the presence of war would otherwise frighten away, leaving the ports without shipping and the custom-houses without revenue; but it is no longer probable that they will lend material and positive aid to the invasion. Spain must, therefore, play out the game alone.

As against Spain alone, there is no doubt that the odds of the conflict incline decidedly to the Mexican side. There are a thousand things about which the Mexican people are of as many minds, and in regard to which they are ready to quarrel among themselves irreconcileably. There is one only upon which they are practically a unit. That happens to be a veteran, implacable hatred of the Spaniard; a dread of Spanish intrigue; a reckless defiance of all attempts to restore Spanish authority. No other source of alarm would so soon bring the entire nation to arms. This landing at Vera Cruz is a signal to be answered from every town and ranche, plain and sierra in the Republic. It will be a *levée en masse* against the intruders. All other disagreements will be forgotten. Even in anticipation of the event, the tendency to amnesty and unity had been clearly demonstrated. Gen. ORTEGA, who drove the reactionists from the Capital, had retired to Zacatecas, his State, in disgust with the JUAREZ Government, and prepared to declare against it. The news of the coming Spaniard brought him again to the city with an offer of his sword, which had been gladly accepted. COMONFORT had entered Mexico from the north, with the design of exciting a revolution. He, too, had tendered his aid to President JUAREZ, to fight against the invaders. Even MEJIA, an old and besotted General of the clerical insurgents, had sent in a tender of his sword in the National cause. Against a sentiment, of the universality and intensity of which there can be no doubt, this handful of Spanish soldiery are called to contend, and it would be a violation of every doctrine of probabilities if they should contend successfully. The people, armed and pitiless, will swarm around them wherever they go. The mountain paths toward the capital will be alive with foes, who will cut off their scouting parties and sentries, waylay their trains, and dispute, in overwhelming numbers, a passage. Already the only two practicable roads to the interior are possessed by National forces under competent leaders, who are probably employing every resource of engineering to make them impassable. And even if they could be traversed, and if the Capital could be reached and stormed, it would take five-fold the force they possess to maintain communication with the sea, and without such communication they would be no better than prisoners in the hands of the Mexicans. They can nowhere hold in subjection a square league beyond the space their encampment may occupy.

For this reason, we believe the Spanish conquest will end where it has begun, with the occupation of Vera Cruz. They will venture no further; or, if they venture, they will pay for their miscalculating folly in swift destruction.

Wrath of the Britons.

The London *Times* is very rapidly losing the little temper it has hitherto shown in the discussion of American affairs. It either assumes that we shall refuse reparation for the *Trent* affair, and, therefore, regards the two countries as virtually at war,—or else it fears we shall not refuse, and finds it necessary to resort to some other method of stimulating the passions and feeding the hatred of the English people. We prefer to rest upon the former supposition. We are not yet prepared to assume, or even to suspect, that any considerable portion of the British nation have resolved on war with the United States, *per fas aut nefas*, and that the *Times* is simply doing the work of men capable of so base and so baseless a malignity. We presume the *Times* takes it for granted that the demands of the British Government in the *Trent* affair will be rejected—that the English will, therefore, be speedily engaged in active hostilities, and that it is feeding the hatred on which such hostilities must live by maligning the Americans to the utmost of its very considerable and utterly unscrupulous ability.

There are several things, partly real but mainly imaginary, which shock the *Times* excessively—or rather by which it seeks to shock the sensibilities of the English people. The first is the execution by the North of the prisoners of war taken from the South by sea and land. The *Times* waxes very eloquent in abuse of the United States on this pretext. A sufficient reply to all it says is found in the fact that nobody has been executed,—that no "murder in cold blood" has been perpetrated, and that there is not half as much prospect of such an event as there is that the *Times* editor will turn freebooter and take command of a Southern privateer. At all events it will be quite safe for him to bottle up his wrath against the actual occurrence of the event which has so aroused it.

Sinking stones in Charleston harbor is the next terrible grievance in the eyes of the *Times*. It becomes classical, sentimental, pathetic and commercial by turns, in dwelling upon this little incident of the war against rebellion. The *Times* will please take notice that, for every old port that we close in that way, we shall open two new ones; that Port Royal is a much better harbor than Charleston ever was, and that when the Southern States return to their allegiance we shall cheerfully vote very large sums of National money for the improvement of their harbors, as the North has been ready to do from time immemorial.

The *Times* is finally very much afraid,—indeed it positively asserts,—that we are about to stir up insurrection among the slaves and set them to work butchering the whites of the Southern States. This is simply a flat and flagrant falsehood. There is not one syllable of truth in it. It is of precisely the same kind of inventions as those which the *Herald* hurled all last year against Mr. LINCOLN and Mr. SEWARD, and has not one particle of foundation in truth. The Government has set itself decidedly and resolutely against any employment of slaves in this war, and even those who advocate organizing them and bringing them under military rule urge it on the ground of *preventing* the very violence and lawlessness which the *Times* lays to their charge.

But it is needless to reply to the diatribes of the *Times*. That paper is evidently preparing the hearts of the people for war. It foresees the necessity of administering to them something strong in the way of stimulants. It will find its labor thrown away. When it discovers how utterly it has mistaken the spirit and temper of the American Government and people, and how completely the occasion of war has been removed, we take it for granted it will change its tone and give much less importance to the fictions and vagaries on which it now lays so much stress.

Mason and Slidell Off.

On New-Year's Day, when everybody was making the compliments of the season, Messrs. MASON and SLIDELL were quietly conveyed from Fort Warren and placed on board the British war-steamer *Rinaldo*, which forthwith put to sea; and if the hurricane which blew the whole night did not send DAVIS' "ambassadors" to Davy's locker, they are now on the fair way of completing the voyage which Captain WILKES cut short six weeks ago. It having been decided in the great Council of Trent, that England has a right to the two worthies, the *corpora delictorum* have been cheerfully yielded up by the Government; and as the "mob," that dreadful creation of the London *Times'* fancy, which it was predicted would sooner see the country smashed than the prisoners given up, has *not* interposed any obstacle, but, on the contrary, has shown itself most languidly indifferent to their taking off, the strange episode in the history of the times with which the names of MASON and SLIDELL are connected, may be considered as ended.

It is curious to contrast the intense excitement caused by the news of the arrest of the rebel "Ambassadors" with the perfect indifference felt at the announcement of their departure. But there is nothing illogical in the two sentiments. The whole country rejoiced at the arrest of two notorious rebels who had been engaged in plotting their country's ruin, and were going abroad the more effectually to carry on the work. But it was presently seen that their arrest, on board an English vessel, was an act which concerned England as well as ourselves. Accordingly, with that inquisitive temper that marks the American mind, the whole North organized itself into a vast Court of Inquiry, and a thousand Presses canvassed the case in all its bearings in view of International Law. It may be that, under the first excitement of the capture, we were somewhat forgetful of our traditional American policy in the matter of neutral rights, and this led us to look too exclusively into *British* principles and precedents. But as time passed, and the case opened up more fully, a recollection of our larger and more permanent interests in the great question, and how they would be jeopardized should we insist on justifying the arrest, added to a growing conviction of what Mr. SEWARD has called the "comparative insignificance of the individuals concerned," operated a marked change in the views of the thoughtful; so that when the policy of the Government was announced, it found the public in a great measure prepared to acquiesce in their decision for the surrender of the prisoners. And if an imperfect appreciation of all the motives that prompted the Administration to take the step it did, left with some a sense of humiliation, it has already wholly disappeared under the influence of Secretary SEWARD'S admirable logic.

The result is that nobody feels the slightest interest in the two wretched traitors, of whom the country is now happily rid. In fact, the mere personalities of MASON and SLIDELL have become so overslaughed by theoretic questions of International Law, that a good many people have begun to regard them as a good deal of a myth.

Rates of Postage—The Reforms Proposed and those Needed.

We hope our members of Congress—and particularly the Post-office Committees of the two Houses—will read an article in to-day's TIMES, from the pen of Mr. PLINY MILES, the Secretary of the New-York Postal Reform Committee. They will be more than amused at the array of facts given. The *exposé* is complete. Mr. MILES has, of course, gone to the postal law for his figures that give the rates of postage on transient printed matter. We doubt if there are many readers—even officers of the Post-office—who would have believed that we had three hundred and twenty "regular" rates of postage for transient printed matter on packages under four pounds in weight. In the table of parcels, from one to sixteen ounces, there are *eighty* different rates. The scale proposed by Mr. MILES, and the Postal Reform Committee, reduces all these to three. These are a fair average of the others, have great convenience and simplicity to recommend them, can be readily remembered, will require no consulting of postal laws to know what they are, will barely need a resort to the weighing scales, and there will be no necessity to examine the packages to see the sort of matter they contain, or the number of pieces comprised. This style of rating postage on printed matter, by quarter and half pounds, has been for years in use in England, with the greatest convenience and success. Since its adoption, there has been a vast and rapid increase of all kinds of printed matter in the English mails, affording at the same time great convenience to the public and a good profit to the Department.

What concern except a Government circumlocution office could ever stumble upon such a system of absurd complication as eighty different rates of carriage for parcels of less than one pound in weight? No wonder our Post-office does comparatively little business, and runs the Government badly in debt. And yet our Post-office Committee, instead of simplifying the rates that have accumulated upon us since good old BEN. FRANKLIN was Post-master-General, are going to introduce a bill to add a few hundred more rates to those already existing. There would really be as much reason in having a separate rate for every pennyweight or grain that a package weighed as to have five for every ounce.

If our members of Congress desire the privilege of sending books and documents from the seat of Government to their constituents, without the unpleasant necessity of paying the postage, they will find a way by consulting the method in use by the British public Departments. All letters and documents—say from the War Department—are in envelopes or wrappers with "War Department" printed on one corner, and "On Her Majesty's Service" at the left hand end at top, and these are all charged at the regular rates of postage by the Post-office to the War office, and thus a regular account is kept, and a Government appropriation at the end of the year furnishes the money. Every Department, even the Post-office itself, has its regular account, and in this way it is known at the close of the fiscal year just how much work the Post-office has done, and for that it receives a full compensation. Let us have no more "going it blind" in our postal operations. No mortal—Postmaster-General, Auditor or other financial officer—can tell whether our Post-office sustains itself or not. Any merchant doing business in the way our Post-office is carried on would be bankrupt in twelve months. An indefinite, uncomputed amount of work is thrown upon it by putting into the mails from five to eight thousand tons of "free matter"—being, as near as can be computed, from one-fourth to one-third the entire amount of the postal matter—and for this enormous, unknown service, that weighs on it like an incubus, an appropriation is made of just $700,000 annually. The correct amount would be from three to four millions. But the Postmaster-General don't know the amount; and no one knows. Somebody is responsible. It is, first, the Senate and House, and next, each and every member of both branches of Congress. Our National affairs are getting to be of too much financial importance to allow of such a loose and slipshod method of doing the business of the nation in any great Department. Will not some thorough business-man probe the whole matter to the bottom, simplify our absurd and perplexing rates of postage, and make our Post-office a paying concern?

The Stevens Battery—Report of the Committee.

The Committee appointed to examine this vessel have made their report. We understand that they are unanimous in approving the general objects of the vessel, and all its principal features. But a majority have made some objections, chiefly to matters of detail, which have induced them to report against the expediency of completing the work on the plan proposed by Mr. STEVENS.

The Committee, as far as we can learn, unanimously *acknowledge the invulnerability of the armor*, the *unprecedented speed* of the vessel, and the correctness of the general design. Nor is any objection made, as we understand it, as to the character of the guns, as to loading and training the guns by steam power, or stopping their recoil by springs, as to the facility with which the vessel can be steered and manœuvred, as to the stability of the vessel—that is to say, the relative situations of her centres of buoyancy and gravity; as to the design and details of the engines, boilers and propellers, or as to the carrying capacity of the vessel, for the purpose intended.

The objections raised by a portion of the Committee are, we believe, founded partly upon a misapprehension of some of the features of Mr. STEVENS' design. Some of the objections are of such a nature that their value can be, and, we have no doubt, will be tested by a mathematical comparison of the vessel with absolute *practice*—a test not subject to uncertainty. The other objections, we perceive from an invitation from Mr. STEVENS to witness certain experiments on Saturday next, will be definitely settled, not by opinion, but by trial.

In view of the present belligerent attitude of European Powers, it cannot be doubted that some adequate means of harbor defence should be immediately provided. That a mailed-fast and heavily-armed vessel of war, will, in the opinion of the highest engineering authorities, constitute such a defence, is proclaimed by the immense expenditure and unparalleled activity of European Governments, in providing such vessels. This belief is confirmed by the anxiety of Congress to authorize the construction of mailed steamers; by the report of the Committee appointed by Congress to examine the general subject of iron-clad ships, and by the report of the Board appointed to examine the Stevens Battery. Assuming, then, for the sake of argument, that some of the details of Mr. STEVENS' designs are inadequate, the great and now incontrovertible fact is before us, that the Stevens Battery, possessing the three principal features required by such vessels—invulnerability, speed, and heavy armament—can be completed and put into service, and so enable our harbor to defy all menacing fleets, in the period of *four months*, while the construction of a vessel of equal power, would require two years' time and a vastly greater cost. The time allotted for building the new English mailed steamers, of about the same size, with all the capacity and facilities of English iron-works, is two years. Nor will any engineer deny that such features of the Stevens Battery as we have assumed to be inadequate, can be changed without delaying the completion of the vessel, or modifying her usefulness.

In any case, then, whether the objections of the Committee shall prove correct or incorrect, enough has been admitted by them, and indorsed by concurrent practice, to warrant the immediate completion of the vessel on some plan.

THE PREPARATIONS OF THE ENGLISH FOR WAR.—The English journals continue to chronicle the movements and preparations of the Government for war. It is very evident that they cherished no hope of avoiding a collision with the United States, and were determined to make their first blows as powerful and effective as possible. There [illegible] and believe that England means war who[ever] *at any rate*, and that the [illegible] to her demands in the *Trent* affair will not change her purpose or her plans. We do not think so. Whatever the *wishes* of a portion of the English nation may be, they cannot go to war with us except for some cause that shall command the national sympathy, without a certainty of ultimate humiliation. France would doubtless have sustained England in a war based upon our refusal to concede the rights of neutrality, of which, for the first time in her history, England made herself the champion. But she will not join her in a war which should aim solely at the promotion of British free-trade, and which would damage French commerce quite as much as it would promote British manufactures. Nor can the English Government command the assent of their own people to any war with this country which is not clearly necessary to the vindication of some imperiled national right.

We believe that the news of the settlement

of the *Trent* affair will work a complete revolution in the public sentiment of England. It will certainly give the friends of peace a powerful lever, and a prodigious advantage in resisting the designs of the conspirators who are trying to force the two nations into a state of war. And while there will still continue to be, in some quarters, loud mutterings of anger against us, we believe the paramount feeling of the English people will be in favor of peace, and of absolute non-intervention in our domestic affairs.

UNFOUNDED REPORTS.—It is curious how little it takes to create a panic in the public mind, in the present state of public sentiment. On New Year's Day the town was filled with a rumor that Gen. McCLELLAN was dead. Nobody knew where it originated, or could give any but the vaguest and most intangible authority for it. But it circulated everywhere, and as no newspapers were published until yesterday noon, there was no means of ascertaining its truth until that time. It turned out that he has not been so seriously ill at any time as to prevent his attending to business, and that he is now rapidly recovering from this slight indisposition. Many people are very fond of attributing to the newspapers all the exciting rumors of the day. This incident shows that such rumors would be ten times as numerous and far more mischievous if there were no newspapers. Where the Press starts one false report it kills a dozen,—and its constant issues render it impossible that any *canard* should have a long life.

VIEWS FROM THE CAPITAL.

Balancing the Books—The Financial Condition of the Country—Our Riches—Value of Real and Personal Property, &c.

From Our Own Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Jan. 1, 1862.

If wisdom suggests that individuals, at the beginning of a new year, should balance their books, settle and adjust accounts, and be sure that they are not living beyond their available means, the rule holds equally good in the case of a nation. The occasion, then, is a fit one for discussing the position of the United States, and preparing the public mind for financial events that must speedily be upon us, and be met frankly and bravely, if the public credit and honor are to be maintained. Gentlemen, here, upon whom rests much of the responsibility of shaping the financial policy of the Government at this time, are rejoiced to find the Press so generally urging liberal resort to taxation. The absurd fear of calling upon the people for the means to preserve the National integrity, which seems to bewilder a certain class of public men, is worthy only of the political demagogue whose whole ambition centres in the attainment of place, and whose estimate of the popular intelligence is so low that he is unwilling to trust it to sustain a money measure, let it be called for by no matter what exigency. Congress is getting over this sort of nonsense quite rapidly. And so it should; for, if the people were not ready to pay the necessary expenses of sustaining the Government when they are brought directly home to them, the sooner it is known the better.

Hitherto taxation has been so light in this favored land, that our people have not yet learned the lesson long patent to every other on earth. But we must come to it, and that speedily. Liberal taxation is the only sound basis we can offer for the vast loans that will be needed to carry our existing war to a successful conclusion, and prove to the world that American institutions have within them the elements of vigorous and enduring life. *Capitalists at home and abroad will take Government bonds in any required amount if we only show them that we are a tax-paying people.*

England, for several years before the battle of Waterloo, with less wealth than is enjoyed by our loyal States to-day, collected annually $460,000,000 by taxation. Surely, in such an emergency as the present, free Americans can do quite as much, with a population of 20,000,000—far exceeding that of England at the period named. Why should there be any fear that our people will not pay taxes like European nations? The latter do it at the demand of their rulers. Is it true that we are a mob, and will not do it for the support of the Government of our own creation—a Government that we have a right to change and modify at will? Let it once be settled that the war is to leave us with a debt of even $2,000,000,000, and let us establish the policy of abundant taxation to meet all possible contingencies, and there will no longer be any trouble about the finances. When it is evident that the country will pay taxes heavy enough to yield the interest on the public debt, and leave a handsome margin for other extraordinary demands that may arise, not only will Government obtain all the money it may need, either at home or abroad, but the fact will satisfy Europe—more than all else—that our nation *is not* a "mob," as the London *Times* teaches, and that it has both the will and the power to survive the crisis which is now testing the stability of republican institutions.

In order to learn the present taxable resources of the country, it is worth while to examine the following (hitherto unpublished)

TABLE, *showing the valuation of Real and Personal Estate in the United States, according to the Seventh Census, in 1850, and the Eighth Census, in 1860, respectively:*

States.	In 1850.	In 1860.	Increase.	Increase per ct. in 10 yrs.
Alabama	$228,204,332	$495,237,078	$267,032,746	117.01
Ark'nsas	39,841,025	219,256,473	179,415,448	450.32
Cal	22,161,872	207,874,623	185,712,741	837.98
Conn	155,707,980	444,274,114	288,566,134	185.32
Del	21,062,556	46,242,181	25,179,625	119.54
Florida	22,862,270	73,101,500	50,239,230	219.74
Georgia	335,425,714	645,895,237	310,469,523	92.56
Illinois	156,265,006	871,860,282	715,595,276	457.93
Indiana	202,650,264	528,835,371	326,185,107	160.95
Iowa	23,714,698	247,338,265	223,623,627	942.97
Kansas		31,327,895		
Kent'ky	301,628,456	666,043,112	364,414,656	120.81
La	233,998,764	602,118,568	368,119,804	157.30
Maine	122,777,571	190,211,600	67,434,029	54.92
Md	219,217,364	376,919,944	157,702,580	71.93
Mass	573,342,286	815,237,433	241,895,147	42.19
Michig'n	80,187,256	257,163,983	197,376,728	330.13
Minn'ta	n't r'd in full	32,394,413		
Miss	295,851,130	607,394,271	378,373,781	166.26
Missouri	137,247,707	501,214,388	363,966,681	265.18
N. H	105,602,887	156,310,860	52,658,626	49.80
N. J	208,628,660	467,919,224	267,918,224	128.95
N. York	1,069,259,216	1,883,305,617	763,038,301	70.63
N. C	226,590,472	358,738,399	131,838,927	58.17
Ohio	504,726,120	1,193,898,422	689,172,302	136.54
Oregon	5,063,474	28,930,637	23,867,163	474.35
Penn	722,486,120	1,416,501,818	694,015,698	96.05
R. Island	80,502,794	135,337,888	54,828,794	68.10
S. C	288,267,694	548,138,754	259,881,060	90.15
Tenn	201,246,686	493,903,892	292,657,206	145.42
Texas	62,740,473	365,260,614	312,460,141	592.44
Vermont	92,205,049	122,477,170	30,272,121	32.83
Virginia	430,701,082	793,249,681	362,548,599	84 17
Wis	42,056,595	273,671,668	231,615 073	550.72
D. of C	14,018,874	41,084,945	27,066,071	193.06
Territ'ies		9,121,056		
Cal'forn'a	6,179,471	20,813,780	15,634,309	252.94
Utah	864,683	5,596,118	4,810,035	467.50
Wash. T		5,001,466		
Total	$7,135,780,228	$16,159,616,068	$8,925,481,011	126.45

* Only thirteen counties in California have been returned thus far ; in New-Jersey, as the real estate only was returned, the figures above are partly estimated.

It will be seen that there was, in all the States in 1860, real and personal estate to the aggregate value of *sixteen billions, one hundred and fifty millions, six hundred and sixteen thousand dollars*, on every dollar of which the Government has a lien, for the purpose of maintaining itself against all foes, foreign or domestic,—or for any other governmental purpose. Not a dollar of this vast sum that is not subject to taxation, and to sale for taxes, if the exaction is not promptly paid. But last as the sum is, it is only part of the taxable wealth. Another unpublished table of the last census shows the total value of *personal* property in the United States to be *five billions, eighty-one millions, six hundred and sixty-one thousand dollars*—giving an aggregate of over twelve billions of taxable property.

A well-known financier and property owner of your City writes to a member of the Committee on Ways and Means the following proposition for taxation, expressing his own conviction of its wisdom, and his entire willingness to abide by it, so far as he and his estate are concerned:

A tax of 1 per cent. on all real and personal property to produce, net	$110,000,000
The tariff—readjusted	80,000,000
Excise (ales, cider and liquors)	25,000,000
Tonnage of $1 per ton on all vessels, canal-boats and railroad companies (annually)	15,000,000
Stamps	15,000,000
Income tax	15,000,000
Legacies, transfers of real estate and of corporate stocks	15,000,000
Tax on soap, candles, oil, gas, salt and other articles, on which it is easy and convenient to collect	25,000,000
Aggregate (annually)	$300,000,000

Here we have a sum provided for. Three times as great, it is estimated, will be needed for the current year, to pay ordinary expenses and the interest on the public debt. Let a tax, in all forms, of $150,000,000 be collected this year in the loyal States, and it is believed the public credit will be strengthened an hundred fold. Who is there that is worthy to enjoy the blessings of free institutions, whose heart fails to respond to the sentiment of Gen. WADSWORTH, of New-York, when he said recently, in conversation with a friend, "Rather than there should be the slightest danger of failure to suppress this rebellion and vindicate the American Government, I would cheerfully part with three-fourths of my estate." But no such sacrifice is needed, for a tax of only 2½ per cent. on the total property of the country would yield $300,000,000 per annum. Deduct one-third because of inability to collect at present in the seceded States, and we still have a sum remaining twice as great as the necessities of the current year.

S.

THE POSTAL QUESTION.

Rates of Postage and the Franking Privilege.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

I see by the newspapers that a bill is to be brought before Congress on Thursday, to abolish franking, and "for other purposes." The "other purposes" indicated are to provide for sending public documents by mail at an exceedingly low rate—one that is utterly uncompensating. If I remember rightly, these rates are for books (public documents) at three cents a pound under 3,000 miles, and five cents a pound over that distance. There are several very cogent reasons why this bill should not pass. Of course franking should be abolished—all will say amen to that—but why cannot this be done without increasing largely our absurdly numerous rates of postage on printed matter, and without loading down our mails with a large amount of useless stuff, a vast proportion of which will never be taken out of the Post-office by the persons addressed, even at the very low rates mentioned above? There is an absurd and unjust distinction made in the postal rates of books printed by Government and those issued by private publishers. Why shall the former be sent at a quarter the price charged for the latter?

The prominent reason, if there were no other, why these additional rates should not be established, is that our rates of postage on transient printed matter are now so numerous as to baffle the calculations and the memory of the most intelligent persons that ever lived, make it absolutely necessary to weigh nearly every book or package that exceeds three ounces, and compel every Postmaster and Post-office clerk to refer to the law to learn the correct postage on a large proportion of the printed matter now sent by mail. Probably not one person in ten thousand is aware of the vast number of rates the present laws impose. The regular rates by weight up to four pounds—the limit for book packages—*are three hundred and twenty.* But think not that these are all. These are the regular rates by weight, without reckoning packages of pamphlets or periodicals that are charged by the number of pieces. This, too, does not include the rate (10¢ in number) on regular newspapers and periodicals, and which are paid quarterly or yearly. If you wish to see a portion of the absurdity in detail, look at the following table of

RATES OF POSTAGE ON TRANSIENT PRINTED MATTER.

Weight in ounces.	Period-icals.	News-papers.	Small papers and pamphlets.	Books under 3,000 miles.	Books over 3,000 miles.
1	1	1	1	1	2
2	1	1	2	2	4
3	1	1	3	3	6
4	2	2	4	4	8
5	3	2	5	5	10
6	4	3	6	6	12
7	5	3	7	7	14
8	6	4	8	8	16
9	7	4	4½	9	18
10	8	4	5	10	20
11	9	5	5½	11	12
12	10	5	6	12	24
13	11	6	6½	13	26
14	12	6	7	14	28
15	13	6	7½	15	30
16	14	7	8	16	32

Going no higher than a pound or sixteen ounces we have eighty different rates, or equivalent to it. The same figures—the rates being alike—in some instances, in two parallel columns, is purely accidental; the rates being on a different scale, or by a different principle, the knowledge of them must be arrived at by following different roads. There being two or three packages of different weights that are the same rate—in the second column—results from the fact that newspapers weigh, on the average, two and a half ounces each, instead of one ounce. But a great many different sorts of matter are rated in the old and absurd way, formerly adopted for letters, by the number of pieces the parcel contains, and when these rates are added to the above, instead of 320 different rates, we shall have an infinitesimal number amounting to some thousands! These circumstances entail a vast amount of useless labor and perplexity upon the public, and compel our under-paid and hard-working Post-office clerks to attend to the following details, *every one of which are totally useless*—or would be under such a scale of rates as common sense would distate.

1. They must open, look into, or examine critically every package to see what sort of printed matter it contains.

2. They must put on the scales and weigh nearly every package—except newspapers and such as go by number of pieces—to see what the rate is.

3. They must count the pieces in all such packages as are rated by the number of papers or pamphlets contained within.

4. They must, in a very large number of cases, refer to the law, and turn over the pages of an octavo volume to learn the rate to be levied. But is there no escape from all this onerous toil on the part of Post-office clerks? Yes, there is. They can, and I presume very often do—when they have been prepaid by stamps, and thrown into the box—"let 'em slide" at the rate the sender chooses to consider is right, and which has already been paid. This very day I heard the most intelligent Post-office clerk I ever knew say he believed if a book or periodical of any weight, size or description were posted here with a three-cent stamp on it, and sent on its way, not one Postmaster or clerk in ten would ever question the rate, or do aught but hand it to the person addressed without further charge. In a vast number of cases, however, the citizen has to spend his precious time, and go to the Post-office to ask the postage that is required, and then must begin the process of weighing, looking at the law, &c.

Why should the postal law compel the citizen to take all this trouble, and why should Postmasters and clerks be asked to do an impossible amount of labor?

Can I quote an English postal regulation without offence? There no Postmaster or clerk is obliged to answer any questions touching rates, or give any rates, or weigh any letter or package except foreign letters.

The rates are so few and simple that a child can learn and remember them, and they are all printed in a small pamphlet that every Postmaster has on sale at a penny.

These facts and details, no doubt, go far toward impeaching the wisdom and common sense of our "statesmen" who have framed our postal laws, but why should the egregious folly be stereotyped, perpetuated and multiplied? The proposed law for abolishing franking and other purposes not only keeps the tabulated absurdity on the statute-book, but adds to the hundreds and thousands of rates that we now have two more columns of figures, comprising at least one hundred and sixty more rates! But perhaps it is too much to expect of our statesmen that they shall consult the convenience of the public, or the economy of labor (money) in our Post-office.

We send through the mail, say 250,000,000 letters and printed packages yearly. These have to be done up, rated or weighed, stamped and put in the Post-office by the citizen, and then they must be rated or weighed again, stamped, the postage stamp canceled, sorted, sent off, transported, received by the next Postmaster, sorted again and delivered, being, say, twelve different distinct processes, or a total of *three thousand million different operations* that must be performed on our postal documents and articles sent by mail. Every single useless process that is entailed on our letters and printed packages makes 250,000,000 distinct pieces of labor that somebody must perform, and that are as useless as was the labor that enjoined upon EPHRAIM PEABODY, when he attempted to get a free trip from Stonington to New-York, and was set to *scouring the anchor* to pay his passage. If these processes have to be done both out and in the Post-office, they amount to 500,000,000 yearly. But you probably ask where is the remedy? I answer, instead of increasing our 320 regular rates for transient printed matter to 480, by a new law, besides the thousand or more irregular rates, reduce the entire list to just nine rates, which will answer every purpose, cost the public and the Post-office half the present labor, being quite as much money for the matter sent, and quadruple the profits by increasing the "transient" printed parcels four-fold, by reason of the greater simplicity and convenience to the public. Very many of the inconveniences in our postal charges consist in the mistake made of having about all of our different rates an odd number of cents. Odd numbers are not convenient multipliers. They do not accord well with our weights and measures. A quarter of a pound has four ounces, a half-pound eight ounces, and a pound sixteen ounces—all even numbers. Now, as to a cent postage, it is too low for anything—even a printed circular, a transient newspaper, or a drop-letter. [Regular newspapers with postage paid by the year, may be lower than that.] Let every single "transient" newspaper and every other kind and description of transient printed matter, up to four ounces in weight, in one parcel, pay just two cents postage. All packages of printed matter, done up in wrappers open at the ends, and weighing from four to eight ounces, should pay four cents, from eight to sixteen ounces, eight cents, and so on, four cents for every additional half pound, or fragment of a half pound beyond the first pound. These rates would bring quite as much—rather more—revenue to the Post-office than our present rates, and would require no examination to see the sort of matter, no counting of pieces, and not one package in ten would have to be weighed, by citizen or Post-office clerk, to tell the amount of postage on it.

You, Mr. Editor, are aware that the New-York Postal Reform Committee—of which I was appointed Secretary—a few years since made a schedule of rates, for the greater convenience of all parties—the public and postmasters—some of the rates being higher and some lower than our multifarious present rates. Where one rate was made lower at least two were made higher. I know the majority of our Postmasters-General and members of Congress, are as shy of a proposed reduction in any one rate or kind of postage as a bull at the sight of a scarlet cloak, even though you show them as plainly as two and two make four that for every penny you take off in one place, you add two at another. They seem to be able to see that a reduction in a rate will reduce the revenue; [I "can't see it," for any reduction of rates always gives a large increase in postal matter,] but they seem not to see that an increase of a rate, when not exorbitant or burdensome, will increase the postal revenue, and cancel the reduction. On the other hand, the public set up a cry of distress at the increase of any single item of postage, though another item is reduced, and other great conveniences are given along with it.

Look at one single item in the British Post-office—an item having no possible connection with "a great country," or a small one, or long or short distances, but where the business in question is exactly parallel in that country and this—the distribution of letters in a large city. Last year the "drop" or local letters in London amounted to 60,000,000, (sixty millions,) and in New-York 1,570,000. The postage on the London letters was two cents each, and on ours the postage was one cent—half the amount. They have a prompt, active, universal delivery twelve times a day; we, a very miserable, irregular, inefficient delivery for only a portion of our letters, three or four times a day. The London office employs 1,400 letter carriers; we a little over a hundred. Our carriers absorb the entire sum of the cent postage on our City letters, leaving no profit at all for the Post-office. The London Post-office makes a clear profit of between 900,000 and a million dollars on the sixty million city letters, over and above the salaries of the carriers and "letter receivers," (over 500 local post-masters) and they in addition, collect and deliver all the general mail letters (55,000,000 in number) and papers absolutely gratis—the postage on them not being reckoned in the above profit of about one million dollars. If New-York had as many drop or local letters as London, in proportion to the population, we should have twenty millions, and on these the clear profit to the post-office ought to be over $300,000.

And would not the distribution of twenty million local letters yearly, in the City of New-York, be of vast convenience and economy to our citizens, and save an immense sum in errand-boys and servants? Who can calculate the vast amount of demoralization and crime that results from sending boys, girls, clerks and servants with messages, and to carry or bring letters, when the Government could do it quicker, better, and far cheaper, and make a handsome profit into the bargain? We have chosen our public servants and sent them to Washington to make laws, and may we not ask, without any disrespect, if they are not willing to grant us a good Post-office, unincumbered with the burden of "franking," without having a miserable and expensive *quid pro quo* in the shape of a pretended compensating rate on public documents, that will entail a great burden and loss on the Post-office, and benefit no one except a few printers.

A frank, honorable and straightforward way would be to continue to send all public documents from Washington free of all charge to the persons addressed, but by an account to be kept with the Post-office, have the money paid in a regular appropriation as part of the Congressional expenses. In this way we should be enabled to see and know what the Post-office actually earns, and what rates of postage are necessary to make it self-sustaining.

Will some attention be paid to these details—details that make a vast amount of labor and expense to millions of people—or shall we go on for half a century more, piling blunder upon blunder, and absurdity upon absurdity, until some man strong enough, independent enough, and sagacious enough, to grapple with the subject, takes it up, and gives us a good postal system?

It will be done some day, and perhaps some scholar or historian, while rummaging among the musty files of some historical society, will overhaul a copy of the New-York TIMES, and there learn that you and I protested against the ancient consummate folly, in the year of grace, 1861, and that I subscribed myself, your most obedient and obliged, humble servant, PLINY MILES.

New-York, Tuesday, Dec. 31, 1861.

THE SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES.

THE NEW-YORK SEMI-WEEKLY TIMES, No. 762, is published this morning. It contains:

The LATEST INTELLIGENCE RECEIVED BY TELEGRAPH UP TO THE MOMENT OF GOING TO PRESS.

LEADING ARTICLES.—The Rights of Neutrals—The Escape of the Traitors—International Law and the Case of the *Trent*—The Foreign News—English Sentiment toward America—New Year's Day—The Government and the Banks, and other Editorials.

EUROPEAN NEWS, with extracts from our foreign files.

THE MUSTER OF THE NORTH, a Poem, by John Savage.

CANADA IN ARMS—The war preparations now in progress on the frontier.

MERCANTILE FAILURES ON THE YEAR.

THE TRENT AFFAIR, and the feeling throughout the country.

CORRESPONDENCE FROM THE CAMPS, giving the movements of the National forces, and detailed accounts of all occurrences of interest at both North and South.

A SUMMARY OF THE REBELLION NEWS, Showing how the Question is Viewed Abroad, and giving all the Telegraphic Dispatches and Correspondence in brief.

A SUMMARY OF THE GENERAL NEWS, both Foreign and Domestic—Events at Home.

ITEMS OF AGRICULTURAL AND DOMESTIC INTEREST, compiled from various sources, many of which are inaccessible to the American reader.

A PAGE OF CAREFULLY PREPARED COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE, containing full reports of the markets and the latest quotations.

The Recent Fire in Broadway.

BURNING OF HEREMAN'S DRUG-STORE.

Messrs. Herring & Co., No. 251 Broadway, New-York:

GENTLEMEN: The Herring's Patent Champion Safe which we bought of you some two years ago has been recovered from the ruins of Hegeman & Co.'s Drug-Store, No. 161 Broadway, which was entirely destroyed by fire on Sunday morning last, the 22d inst.

We occupied the entire upper part of the building as a manufactory of paper boxes and salesroom for papers and cards. We had a large amount of material on hand, and the inflammable nature of the drugs stored on the three floors below made a very hot fire. All our books, insurance policies and other valuable papers, beside a small amount of money, was locked up in your Patent Safe. The safe stood on the second floor near the centre of the building, and fell with the ruins of the building into the cellar below, where it lay imbedded until 8 o'clock last evening, a period of *one hundred and fourteen hours*, or *nearly five days*. We are happy to add that our books, papers and money were all completely preserved, and the entire contents of your safe when taken out this morning are almost as bright as when we put them in.

We have selected another Herring's Champion Safe to look them up in, and shall always take pleasure in recommending them to our friends for use.

BRINGHAUS & SOLLINGER.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 2?, 1861.

HERRING'S PATENT CHAMPION FIRE-PROOF SAFES.

The most reliable security from fire now known.

HERRING'S CHAMPION BURGLAR-PROOF SAFES, Lined with Herring & Floyd's NEW PATENT "CRYSTALIZED IRON"—the only metal which cannot be drilled.

SECOND-HAND SAFES.

Of a variety of makes, having been taken in part pay for "Herring's," will be sold cheap.

HERRING & CO.,
No. 251 Broadway, New-York.
FARREL, HERRING & CO., Philadelphia.
HERRING & CO., Chicago.

The Fire at the Oil Works.

OFFICE OF THE NEW-YORK KEROSENE OIL Co.,
Saturday, Dec. 28, 1861.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

Our attention has been called to an article in your edition of Saturday, giving an exaggerated account of a fire at our works, calculated to unsettle the oil market, and do us much harm. The injury is confined to the burning of the connections of seven stills, the destruction of some two thousand gallons of annuished oil, or a total loss of not to exceed $2,500. The fire does not in any way interfere with the daily supply of oil. Yours, &c.,

COZZENS & CO.

Happy New Year, 1862.—Ladies, we wish you all a happy New Year, and return you our sincere thanks for the kind and liberal patronage extended toward us for the past year. Hoping, by strict attention to business, and selling good articles, at moderate prices, to merit a continuance of your favors, with respect,

MILLER & CO., No. 367 Canal-st.

At Retail.

Musical Boxes, playing from 2 to 24 tunes.
Toy Musical Boxes, playing 1, 2, 3 or 4 tunes.
Watches, gold and silver, at 20 prices.
M. J. PAILLARD, Importer,
No. 21 Maiden-lane, (up stairs,) New-York.

Trusses.—MARSH & CO.'S Radical Cure Truss, No. 2 Vesey-st., opposite the church. All kinds of Trusses, Supporters, (Military Shoulder Braces and Dr. Wadsworth's Uterine Elevator,) Elastic Stockings, and Mechanical appliances for Deformities. (A female attends ladies.)

Boots and Shoes.—Gentlemen's custom-made Boots and Shoes—the stock of a Broadway boot-maker—now selling below cost of manufacture, at
SLATER'S, No. 2 Cortlandt-st., near Broadway.

MARRIED.

MALLORY—COOPER.—In West Mount Vernon, Westchester County, N. Y., on Wednesday, Jan. 1, by Rev. Isaac M. See, ALONZO R. MALLORY, Esq., to Miss CHRISTIANA G. COOPER.

SHEAWOOD—BULKLEY.—In Ridgefield, Conn., on Tuesday, Dec. 31, in St. Stephen's Church, by Rev. Wm. H. Williams, ARTHUR H. SHEAWOOD, of South port, and JULIA ANN, daughter of George Bulkley, of the former place.

FRASER—BRIGHT.—In Thompsonville, Conn., on Tuesday, Dec. 31, by Rev. Mr. Adams, DANIEL R. FRASER, of this City, to ELIZA JANE, eldest daughter of Mr. Benjamin Bright.

WARING—VERNON.—In Worcester, Mass., on Monday, Dec. 23, by Rev. E. W. Hager, Lieut. JAMES WARING, of New-York, to HARRIET WINTHROP VERNON, of Providence, R. I.

DIED.

JOSLIN.—In this City, on Tuesday, Dec. 31, of disease of the heart, BENJAMIN F. JOSLIN, M. D., aged 65 years.

The funeral will take place on Friday, 3d inst., at 12 o'clock M., from his late residence, No. 72 University-place.

BRAKER.—In this City, on Thursday, Jan. 2, FRANCIS, infant son of Conrad and Frances J. Braker, aged 11 months.

The friends of the family are invited to attend the funeral, on Saturday, at 2 o'clock, from No. 346 West 42d-st.

HITCHCOCK.—In this City, on Thursday, Jan. 2, LUMAN N. HITCHCOCK, of Morristown, N. J., lately of China, aged 43 years.

Notice of his funeral will be given in the evening papers.

SEYMOUR.—In this City, on Wednesday, Dec. 1, PATIENCE WOODWARD, widow of the late Jonathan Seymour, aged 68 years.

The friends of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, on Sunday, the 5th inst., at 1 o'clock, from No. 47 Jane-st., without further invitation.

FAIRTLOUGH.—In this City, on Sunday, Dec. 22, of typhoid fever, RACHEL, wife of George C. Fairtlough, and daughter of Mr. John Hulbert, of the City of Dublin, aged 25 years, and on Monday, Dec. 30, at Sing Sing, of typhoid fever, GEORGE CLEGG FAIRTLOUGH, compositor, youngest son of the late Mr. John Fairtlough, of Drogheda, Ireland.

☞ Dublin and Drogheda papers please copy.

HOFF.—In this City, on Wednesday morning, Jan. 1, MARY ANN, wife of Joseph R. Hoff, aged 37 years.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend her funeral, from her late residence, No. 29 Bank-st., this day, (Friday,) at 1 o'clock P. M. Her remains will be interred in Cypress Hills Cemetery.

SMITH.—In this City, at first hour on Wednesday, Jan. 1, of scarlet fever, DANIEL DRAKE, youngest son of Henrietta M. and Daniel Drake Smith, in the 6th year of his age.

CLARKE.—On Tuesday evening, Dec. 31, FRANCES WATKINS, only daughter of I. Edwards and Mary Proctor Clarke, aged 12 months and 12 days.

☞ Kentucky and Massachusetts papers please copy.

DINSMORE.—On Tuesday, Dec. 31, after a brief illness, PAUL SAMUEL, youngest child of Samuel P. and Harriet N. Dinsmore, aged 1 year and 9 months.

FROST.—In Brooklyn, on Wednesday, Jan. 1, of diphtheria, AGNES MARVIN, daughter of F. M. Frost, aged 17 months.

The friends of the family, and of her grandfather, Dr. Geo. Marvin, are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from the residence of her parents, No. 81 Henry-st., this (Friday) afternoon, at 2 o'clock.

BAKING.—In Brooklyn, on Thursday morning, Jan. 2, WILLIAM H. BAKING, in the 70th year of his age.

The friends and relatives of the family are respectfully invited to attend the funeral, from St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Classon-av., near Myrtle-av., on Saturday afternoon, at 2 o'clock, without further invitation.

☞ Cincinnati papers please copy.

LATTING.—In Latting Town, L. I., on Wednesday evening, Jan. 1, JOSEPH LATTING, in the 80th year of his age.

The relatives and friends of the family are invited to attend his funeral, from his late residence, on Saturday morning, Jan. 4, at 11 o'clock.

HINMAN.—In South Orange, N. J., on Wednesday, Jan. 1, at the residence of her son-in-law, William J. Beebe, Mrs. PRISCILLA HINMAN, relict of the late Capt. Munson Hinman, in the 73d year of her age.

Her remains will be taken to Bridgeport, Conn., for interment.

ATHERTON.—In North Bridgewater, Mass., on Tuesday, Dec. 31, after an illness of 5 months, Professor GEORGE T. ATHERTON, of this City.

COBB.—In Philadelphia, on Monday, Dec. 30, Mrs. MARY COBB, in the 67th year of her age.

OFFICIAL DRAWINGS OF MURRAY, EDDY & CO.'S KENTUCKY AND MISSOURI STATE LOTTERIES.

KENTUCKY, EXTRA CLASS 1.—Jan. 2, 1862.
2, 74, 38, 52, 58, 14, 36, 67, 70, 15, 34, 54.

KENTUCKY, CLASS 2.—Jan. 2, 1862.
37, 29, 56, 2, 67, 19, 17, 3, 75, 20, 60, 25, 16.

Circulars sent free of charge by addressing either to
MURRAY, EDDY & CO.,
Covington, Ky., or St. Louis, Mo.

ROYAL HAVANA LOTTERY CONDUCTED by the Spanish Government. Prizes cashed and information furnished by TAYLOR & CO., Bankers, No. 16 Wall-st.

WIGS AND TOUPEES.

ORNAMENTAL HAIR—ALL KINDS.
HAIR DYE—BEST IN USE.
HAIR DYEING—ALL COLORS.
MOLDAVIA CREAM, for preserving, beautifying and forcing the hair to grow.
☞ All these articles can be found, in greatest perfection, at W. A. BATCHELOR'S celebrated establishment, No. 16 Bond-st.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT TO MOTHERS.—Mrs. WINSLOW, an experienced nurse and female physician, has a Soothing Syrup for children teething which greatly facilitates the process of teething, by softening the gums, reducing all inflammation—will allay all pain, and is sure to regulate the bowels. Depend upon it, mothers, it will give rest to yourselves and relief and health to your infants. Perfectly safe in all cases.

Millions of bottles are sold every year in the United States. It is an old and well-tried remedy.

George A. Fowler, of Guilford, writes under date of June 12, 1860:

Permit me to say to you that Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP has an unprecedented sale with me since my customers have ascertained its merits. This is the first time, in a thirty-five years' drug business, that I have indorsed a medicine for intrinsic good qualities. I never before this wrote a recommendation of any patent medicine. I know not what its composition is, but I believe it is perfectly harmless and safe. I know it gives the greatest satisfaction to parents and nurses, affording relief and quietude, without any unpleasant effects attending its use. Yours, respectfully,

GEORGE A. FOWLER.

Mothers! Mothers!! Mothers!!! An old nurse for children. Don't fail to procure Mrs. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP for Children Teething. It has no equal on earth. No mother who has ever tried

MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP

For Children will ever consent to let her child pass through the distressing and critical period of teething without the aid of this invaluable preparation. If life and health can be estimated by dollars and cents, it is worth its weight in gold.

Millions of bottles are sold every year in the United States. It is an old and well-tried remedy.

David Miller, of Claverack, New-York, writes, under date of June 13, 1860:

We have a child three months old, which has screamed almost incessantly with a spasmodic affection of the bowels, so that we had despaired of ever raising it. Its stomach was sour, bowels deranged, and almost every symptom was unfavorable, until we obtained a bottle of the SOOTHING SYRUP, which acted like a charm. It immediately became quiet, and now manifests every symptom of improvement and comfort. It is now as good as a little kitten, playful and smiling, and seems entirely well. All of which we ascribe to the use of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. Yours, respectfully,

DAVID MILLER.

We have spoken of this Syrup for the benefit of our readers who are parents. We know its good value, and have experienced some of the rich blessings which result from its use. Mrs. Winslow is no quack, but a woman of long experience as a nurse and female physician.

"I am happy to be able to certify to the efficiency of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, and to the truth of what it is represented to accomplish. Having a little boy suffering greatly from teething, who could not rest, and at night by his cries would not permit any of the family to do so, I purchased a bottle of the Soothing Syrup. Its effect upon him was like magic; he soon went to sleep, and all pain and nervousness disappeared. We have had no trouble with him since, and the little fellow will pass through with comfort the excruciating process of teething by the sole aid of Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup. Every mother who regards the health and life of her children, should possess it. MRS. H. A. ALGER.

LOWELL, MASS.

BEWARE OF COUNTERFEITS AND IMITATIONS.

None genuine unless the fac-simile of CURTIS & PERKINS, New-York, is on the outside wrapper.

Sold by Druggists throughout the world.

Principal Office, No. 13 CEDAR-ST., NEW-YORK.

Price only 25 cents per bottle.

GREENWICH, N. J., Aug. 7, 1861.

Messrs. John I. Brown & Son, Boston, Mass.:

DEAR SIRS: I have been using your "Bronchial Troches" for a year or two. I find them to answer an excellent purpose. They have frequently proved a great relief to me when annoyed with dryness of the throat and huskiness of voice. I have no doubt they are quite as valuable to public speakers as MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP is for children.

I at least have been soothed and comforted in the use of them. I can heartily recommend them.

(Signed,) J. R. PLITT,
Pastor Evangelical Lutheran Church.

PATENTED NOVEMBER 1, 1859.

BALLOU'S PATENT
IMPROVED FRENCH YOKE SHIRTS.
Patented November 1, 1859.

A NEW STYLE OF SHIRT, WARRANTED TO FIT. Made to measure at $15, $18, $24, &c., &c., per dozen. No order taken for less than half a dozen shirts. Wholesale trade supplied on the usual terms.

BALLOU BROTHERS,
No. 409 Broadway, New-York.

PETER COOPER'S
Clarified
SHEET AND SHRED GELATINE,
An improved article for
CALVES' FOOT JELLY, BLANC MANGE,
AND
WINE JELLIES.
Sold by all the principal grocers and druggists.
PETER COOPER, No. 17 Burling-slip.

CHAPPED HANDS AND LIPS
Cured in a few hours, and the skin made delicately Soft and white by the use of
TADMAN & CO'S
CAMPHOR CAKE WITH GLYCERINE.
It requires no artificial heat in applying, as it dissolves Readily when applied to the skin.
No. 81 Bleecker-st. and No. 268 4th-av. By mail 25 cents

IMPORTANT.
ALL ARTICLES FOR SOLDIERS
At Port Royal, Hatteras Inlet, Fortress Monroe, Baltimore, Washington, and all other places, should be sent by HARNDEN'S EXPRESS, No. 74 Broadway,
As they charge only
HALF RATES.

A RARE CHANCE FOR A SAFE INVESTMENT.—A farm of 100 acres, in a high state of cultivation; dwelling, barns and outhouses in complete order; situated in Middlesex County, New-Jersey, three miles from Spotswood; schools and churches in the immediate neighborhood. Apply to JOHN L. PARKER, No. 259 Washington-st., New-York, or to JOHN PERRINE, Spotswood, N. J.

NEW MUSIC.—"THE LORD DOTH NOW TO this Nation Speak," "O, Let My People Go," parody on "Song of the Contrabands;" words by Moses. Music arranged by T. Ba

GEN. BANKS' COMMAND.

Proceedings of the General Court-Martial—More Skirmishing at Dam No. 5—Advance of Gen. Kelly's Forces—Operations on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, &c.

FREDERICK, Monday, Dec. 30.

The commission for examining into the character, ability and qualifications of this division of the army still continues its sittings in this city. Many cases of the lower grades of commissioned officers have been examined into and reported upon to the Commander-in-Chief. Others, including some of high grades, are now before the Board. The final action in all the cases will not be divulged until the rising of the Board.

The General Court-Martial to-day takes up the case of the murder by a private of the Fifth Connecticut Regiment, perpetrated while the regiment was on a march last Fall from Pleasant Valley to Williamsport. After disposing of this, deserter cases will be brought up. It is believed that several of this class will be made examples of by the process laid down in the Articles of War.

JOHN S. CLARK, late Colonel of the Nineteenth New-York, has been appointed aid-de-camp to Gen. BANKS, with the rank of Colonel, and reported this morning for duty.

Last week a fire broke out in a dwelling near Gen. BANKS' headquarters, affording his body guard, the Zouaves d'Afrique, a rare opportunity of instilling some new tactics in the fire department. Before the alarm had hardly sounded these agile fellows had emptied the engine houses of their machines, attached hose, scaled the walls and extinguished the fire in an incredibly short space of time, saving the valuable property from any great loss.

Mrs. Gen. BANKS and the ladies of many of the other officers of this division are at present sojourning here, giving a metropolitan tone to society and an increased air of refinement and elegance to the city. On Saturday, Gen. BANKS, First Assistant Postmaster-General KASSON, and S. G. MIDDLETON, Cashier of the United States Treasury, dined at the mansion of FREDERICK SLYE, Esq., editor of the *Examiner*.

The Fifth Connecticut Regiment has been ordered hither from Hancock, and will probably be here on Thursday. The first section of Capt. BEST's regular battery is now on its way here from the same place.

A man named JAMES MCGRAW, from Harper's Ferry, was arrested here on the 27th. He is charged with voluntarily furnishing the enemy with a large quantity of salt—some say from 150 to 200 sacks.

On Christmas day Gov. BANKS, through the Judge Advocate, Capt. COLLINS, discharged from custody a number of prisoners under sentence by a former Court-martial.

A very useful institution is the Ordnance Department of this Division, under charge of Lieut. W. THOMPSON, of Company I, Massachusetts Twelfth. A force under him is employed in repairing and issuing arms which would otherwise be condemned and returned to Washington. The same officer has charge of the magazine and trophies captured from the rebels.

FREDERICK, Md., Tuesday, Dec. 31.

Contrabands from counties adjacent to the Potomac continue to arrive daily, and, after an examination by Gov. BANKS, are forwarded to Gen. MCCLELLAN's Headquarters, to be disposed of. It is stated that at least one-third of the slaves of Loudoun County have made their escape, and some from Fairfax, Fauquier and Culpeper occasionally turn up in this vicinity. This morning some ten or twelve negroes, and four or five white refugees, were dispatched by cars to Washington. The refugees represent that if our forces were to enter Loudoun, the white population now there, almost to a man, would gladly renew their allegiance to the Union.

At last accounts, the rebel force at Leesburgh had been considerably augmented. The militia, however, showed a great disinclination to fight, and were put at work on new fortifications, the precise location of which is not given, but is probably well known to our military authorities. The number of troops in and about Leesburgh is estimated at 6,000, including the militia.

Advices from Dam No. 5, this morning, inform us that the rebels made a demonstration there yesterday, and fired several shot and shell at the Dam and our men, from their 42-pound rifled gun, doing no damage. On Saturday they showed themselves at Falling Waters. A portion of Col. LEONARD's command, stationed there, laid upon their arms all night, but discovered no enemy in the morning. While the enemy of late have only shown one gun, (the 12-pound Parrott cannon,) it is known that they have in the vicinity of Martinsburgh a full field battery, which is probably masked in some place where they anticipate we are to pass, should an advance be made. A number of the enemy are still engaged in taking up the track north of Martinsburgh, and their occasional appearance near Williamsport are probably only reconnoitering parties. Thus far none on our side have been hurt, but our Parrott battery at the Dam is known to have played some disastrous freaks in their ranks. They have quite an encampment at Bunker Hill, which they are intrenching, and are throwing up heavy fortifications at Martinsburgh.

Gen. KELLY's men have opened the railroad seven miles south of Hancock, and are steadily progressing toward Martinsburgh, daily circumscribing the enemy's river line. As far as the road has been completed, it is strongly guarded against any attempt of the rebels.

The tone of Union sentiment in this part of the the State indorses the release of MASON and SLIDELL, as a measure of wise policy in the present exigency.

The Maryland public are cautioned against the exchange or purchase of horses in the hands of persons unknown to them, as horse-stealing by deserters and retired teamsters has been prevalent of late. The latest case was the desertion and theft of a cavalry man from the Poolesville division, who exchanged his horse at Ellicott's Mills. Both the man and horse are in custody.

FREDERICK, Wednesday, Jan. 1.

The political prisoners which have been captured and detained at Williamsport, by Col. LEONARD during the past three months, arrived here yesterday under a strong guard, and proceed this morning to Washington. Among the principal personages of this group are W. D. SHEPARD, late a Chaplain in the rebel service, ABRAHAM SHEPARD, his brother, a member of a Shepardstown volunteer corps, and several civil officers who undertook to execute the rebel laws in Morgan County. They are all sent to Washington in conformity with the late general orders by the Commander-in-Chief.

A private dispatch from Williamsport last night, states that about 3 P. M. yesterday, a rebel force (a number not given) with one gun, attacked the railroad workmen between Paxton's Cut and Cherry Run, eleven miles east of Hancock. They were repulsed and routed by the National protective force, with a loss of twenty killed. The assailants were protecting the rebel laborers who were engaged in taking up the track.

Col. BAYLOR is said to have a rebel force of 70 men a few miles south of Hancock.

JACKSON, with his whole available force, is said to be preparing to move against Gen. KELLY at Hancock.

Later advices have been received from Harper's Ferry. Maj. TYNDALL, of the Twenty-eighth Pennsylvania, is keeping close guard upon the river at that point. The people of the Ferry, nearly all of whom are women and children, are blockaded on all sides. The rebel pickets extend across the neck over Bolivar Heights, to Smallwood's woods on the north, and prohibit all supplies of provisions and fuel from entering into the town; while the National commander exercises equal vigilance at Sandy Hook. Men, who have been compelled to flee from Harper's Ferry, complain that their families are restrained from joining them on this side; but if this statement is well founded the restriction must be based upon some misapprehension.

A band of rebels were busily engaged in removing the contents of Mr. WEAKWIG's machine works, located on Herr's Island, in the Shenandoah, near Harper's Ferry. HERR & WELCH's new flour mill was not destroyed by the enemy, but the old one was entirely demolished some months ago.

All persons residing in Harper's Ferry and Bolivar seen by the rebel look-outs to approach the river, are captured on their return to their homes, and sent to Charlestown. Several families who went down to the river with their movable effects, intending to come to Maryland, are stated to have shared this fate.

All was quiet yesterday from Sandy Hook to the Point of Rocks.

Later intelligence from the vicinity of Leesburgh, leads to the belief that the enemy have erected strong works, northeast of Leesburgh, on the ridge which terminates nearly opposite the mouth of the Monocacy. The report is confirmed that the rebel force at Leesburgh has been largely increased, but the report that the militia refuse to fight is doubted.

COL. LEE ON RETALIATION.

CELL, HENRICO COUNTY JAIL,
RICHMOND, Va., Friday, Dec. 13, 1861.

DEAR SIR: The reported proceedings of Congress, reproduced in the Richmond papers, informed me that a motion is before the House, requesting the President to apply the retaliatory principle to Messrs. MASON and others, as a counter-act to our imprisonment. I trust and hope that you and Mr. RICE will protect my name from such a connection. I am willing to bear manfully whatever penalty attaches to my present position, but I earnestly beg that my case may not be made a reason for continuing a policy which, if fully established, will make atrocity, rather than humanity, the illustration of war.

At a proper time, and in a proper way, my Government will. I am confident, consider and act upon the question of exchange of prisoners of war, and also on our especial "hostage" cases. For one, I shall, as becomes an obedient soldier, wait for that time patiently, without a murmur, not permitting any personal hardships to magnify my case into one demanding precedence of public policies.

My health, and also that of REVERE, is excellent.

With great respect, very truly,
W. RAYMOND LEE.

Hon. SAMUEL HOOPER, Washington, D. C.

LETTER FROM CAMP ANDERSON.

CHRISTMAS DAY IN CAMP—CHANGES AMONG THE STAFF OFFICERS—RUMORS OF A MOVEMENT, ETC.

Correspondence of the New-York Times.

HEADQUARTERS THIRD INFANTRY, CAMP ANDERSON, WASHINGTON, D. C., Friday, Dec. 27, 1861.

If any of our friends in New-York, while enjoying their Christmas dinner, gave a thought to us poor regulars, and wondered how we fared on that great feast day, it will rejoice them to know that we fared as sumptuously as any men of well regulated minds could possibly desire. Our company commanders behaved in a most liberal manner, thereby strengthening the hold they have already obtained on the good will and affection of their men. Companies D and G, of the Tenth Infantry, commanded respectively by Lieuts. GOODING and WELLS, feasted on turkeys, cakes, apples, &c., in their quarters. Company D, of the Third, were provided with a dinner by Capt. DAVIES, at the European Hotel, on Pennsylvania avenue. The great affair, however, was the dinner of Company H, at the quarters of their commander, Lieut. ANDREW J. SHERIDAN, who kindly placed his rooms at their disposal. Under the superintendence of the Sergeant the rooms were tastefully decorated with the Stars and Stripes, and rifles and swords festooned with flowers and ribbons were arranged on the walls in the form of the initial of the Company, H. The dinner itself consisted of peas soup, roast beef, beef *à la mode*, roast and boiled turkeys, chickens, boned turkeys, salad, English plum pudding, jellies, apples, oranges, almonds, Champagne, wine, ale and lager beer *ad libitum*. To make the thing complete, the table was surrounded by as many hearty boys as could find seats. A six months' course of pork and boiled beef had developed their appetites for gentler nourishment to a rather alarming extent, and if they did not enjoy their dinner as well as the President and the whole of the Cabinet put together, it was no fault of theirs. The writer has a vivid recollection of boned turkey and Champagne, and would be glad if Christmas Day could conveniently be celebrated once a month, at least. Gen. STEES paid us a visit during the dinner hour. Of course, eating was suspended for the time while we stood to attention and gave our Brigadier three rousing cheers and a tiger. He made us a sweet speech, hoped we would enjoy ourselves, and when the day came prove that we could fight as well as eat. We cheered and tigered the sentiment, and then fell to again with renewed vigor, and cleared the table as expeditiously as we hope to clear the way before us when we have a chance. During the afternoon, Adjt. DEVOE, Lieut. SNYDER, Capt. DAVIES, Lieut. HELME, Assistant Adjt.-Gen. BROUILLARD, Quartermaster MCCOOL and other officers dropped in. The latter made a funny speech, and we drunk his health with all the honors. Dr. STEINBERGH also visited us, and said he had made the astonishing discovery that there was nothing like the prospect of a good dinner for getting men out of the hospital. Some of our boys, who had suddenly become well on Christmas morning, after days of suffering, blushed a little at this, or rather, turned red, for soldiers don't blush.

Everything passed off most peaceably and harmoniously. There was no quarreling or disturbance of any kind to mar the pleasures of the day, and I am sure the officers will not regret having given their men such a welcome chance of enjoying themselves.

Messrs. WHITE, JOYCE & Co., Thirteenth-street, sent us acceptable presents of viands and cigars, and we did not fail to remember them in our libations.

The following changes have been made in the Staff appointments: Lieut. J. P. BROUILLARD, Acting Assistant Adjutant-General on the Staff of Gen. SYKES, has been transferred to the same post on Gen. MCDOWELL's Staff, and has been succeeded by the Regimental Adjutant, Lieut. FREDERICK DEVOE.

The other day there was a rumor about the camp that we should shortly make a forward movement. Every one was on the *qui vive* at once. On making inquiries into the matter, I could find no other foundation for the rumor than that Gen. SYKES' servant had said he was ordered to procure a new outfit for himself—probably for New-Year's. The knowing ones, however, will have it that we shall soon be in Secessia. If not, why was JOHN ordered to get a new outfit? That's what they want to know.

CAMP ANDERSON.

OPERATIONS OF THE SUMTER.

HOW THE MONTMORENCI WAS RANSOMED.

The Captain of the ship *Montmorenci*, captured by the *Sumter* on Nov. 26, tells the following story of the manner in which he ransomed his vessel. After describing the chase, he says:

"The *Sumter*, lying within a few yards of us, her guns pointed at us, and about one hundred men on deck, I did not see the least chance for escape. I went on board the *Sumter*, when I was ordered to the captain's cabin, who said to me that I was his enemy, that my ship was a prize to the Confederate States of America, &c. I told him I had a cargo of coals belonging to the English West India Mail Steamship Company, that my ship was chartered by them, and that he could not take my ship without coming in collision with England. He asked how I could prove these facts. I referred to my charter party, bill of lading, clearance from Newport, Wales, and showed him the papers.

The Captain then said the ship and freight belonged to him; that he would put a prize-master on board, and send her into port. I asked him where he could send her. He then said he would burn her. I again reminded him of neutral cargo. He figured the probable cost of the coals, and said if I had a valuable cargo belonging to English owners, he should let me go, after taking what he wanted from the ship, but as the cargo was not worth over $4,000, it was worth his while to pay England, if obliged to do so, $4,000 for the sake of destroying from his enemy what he supposed worth $50,000; that it would be money well laid out. He said there was one of two things he would do: he would take from me a ransom bond of $20,000, payable to the President of the Confederate States thirty days after the Declaration of Peace, or he would burn my ship. I told him I did not know such a President. He then called an officer of the deck, and told him to take all the valuables from my ship, and then burn her. While they were in the act of doing so, I concluded to sign the bond and save the ship, thinking the bond worthless, and I believe he took it as a lawyer-like way of getting rid of me. He then declared me a prisoner of war, and wanted me to sign a parole-paper. I demurred, but he had me a prisoner in his cabin, and told me there was no alternative. I had to do it. He then said he wanted all my spare canvas, rope, paints, oil, &c. After ransoming my ship—which I put into my protest as piracy—he took all my fire-arms, powder, &c. I told him I wanted my fire-arms. He said it was one of the most important things to disarm their enemies, but when I expostulated with him, that I must have them, as I had ransomed my ship, and must protect her against small pirates, he said I was right, and gave them all up to me after I got on board my own ship, sword and all. He kept our best ensign as a trophy of his prize. He took from us many little things, some rope, and about two hundred pounds of white lead that we had bought to paint ship.

Setting aside the piratical acts of SEMMES and his officers, they are very gentlemanly in their appearance. I tried to get a chance to see how well armed the *Sumter* was. I went on deck. The officer of the deck immediately came to me and told me I would be well treated, but begged me to go down in the ward-room. I told him that it was rather close below, and I wanted to see if they had a big gun. When the officer of the deck failed to get me in below, SEMMES came up and asked me if I would oblige him by going back into his cabin. All I saw was four guns on a side, not heavy; but the *Sumter* will go fast. SEMMES told me he had just got clear of the *Iroquois*."

EXECUTION OF TWO REBEL SOLDIERS.

The Centreville correspondent of the Richmond *Dispatch*, writing on the 11th, says:

"On Monday, at 11 o'clock, two soldiers, belonging to the 'Tiger Rifles,' were shot by order of Gen. JOHNSTON, after having been tried by court-martial and convicted.

The two unfortunate men were found guilty of striking an officer while endeavoring to prevent them rescuing a prisoner then in their custody. Their names were DENNIS CORCORAN and MIKE O'BRIEN, Isishmen by birth, but for some years residents of New-Orleans. As the hour for execution arrived, some 10,000 or 15,000 soldiers arrived upon the ground, and were formed on three sides of the spot selected.

The men were brought up in a wagon, and accompanied by a Catholic priest. They were dressed in a full suit of Tiger uniform, and, being men of fine manly forms, presented a splendid appearance. They bore the ordeal bravely. Alighting from the wagon, each walked up to the stakes prepared for them, and kneeled while their hands were tied and the bandages adjusted over their eyes. Then came a moment of breathless suspense, and the next the bullets of their comrades sent their souls into eternity. Both were buried near the spot of their ignominious death, and according to the rites of the Catholic Church.

The most affecting part of the scene was immediately following the discharge of musketry. One of the men had a brother in the crowd, who, before the smoke of the volley cleared from the spot, ran to his side, and supported him as his life-blood ebbed away and felt the last quiver of mortality as the soldier's body fell into his arms. It was heart-rending to see the poor brother's agony. The life of dishonor and crime were both forgotten at one thought of that fire of brotherly love that had burned through years of sin. The death of the criminal was borne with stolidity, but the simple sight of such heartfelt, brotherly grief, moistened every eye."

LAW REPORTS.

Legal Notice.

SUPERIOR COURT.

The Special Term Calendar will be called at 11 A. M., on Monday, Jan. 6, 1862, in the Chamber of the Board of Aldermen, by Chief-Justice BOSWORTH.

Part 3d of the Trial Term will be held in the General Term Room, in the building on the corner of Centre and Chambers streets.

Part 4th of the Trial Term will be held in the room beneath that in which Part 3d is held.

ROBT. D. LIVINGSTON, Clerk.

Business of the Courts for 1861.

SUPREME COURT—CHAMBERS.

Richard C. Hamlin, Clerk.

INGRAHAM, J.—Attachments, 200; injunctions 13; arrests, 39.

SUTHERLAND, J.—Attachments, 311; injunctions, 37; arrests, 45.

CLERKE, J.—Attachments, 144; injunctions, 32; arrests, 40.

LEONARD, J.—Attachments, 270; injunctions, 42; arrests, 67.

BARNARD, J.—Attachments, 43; injunctions, 66; arrests, 102.

PECKHAM, J.—Attachments, 20; injunctions, 2; arrests, 6.

GOULD, J.—Attachments, 26; injunctions, 2; arrests, 5.

MULLEN, J.—Attachments, 11; injunctions, 4.

ALLEN, J.—Attachments, 14; arrests, 7.

WELLES, J.—Attachments, 5.

Attachments against vessels, 25.

Motions heard and orders made: Leonard, J., 1,390; Clerke, J., 488; Ingraham, J., 132; Barnard, J., 1,708; Sutherland, J., 1,126; Allen, J., 94; Mullen, J., 62; Gould, J., 10; Peckham, J., 117.

Foreclosure cases and decrees: Leonard, J., 87; Ingraham, J., 72; Barnard, J., 74; Clerke, J., 25; Sutherland, J., 64; Allen, J., 5; Mullen, J., 1; Gould, J., 15; Peckham, J., 9.

Divorces granted: Ingraham, J., 17; Clerke, J., 4; Leonard, J., 21; Barnard, J., 33; Sutherland, J., 18; Allen, J., 1; Mullen, J., 1; Gould, J., 3; Peckham, J., 1.

Writs of *habeas corpus*: Leonard, J., 33; Clerke, J., 20; Ingraham, J., 20; Barnard, J., 25; Sutherland, J., 46; Mullen, J., 2; Welles, J., 3; Allen, J., 5; Gould, J., 8.

Cases settled: Clerke, J., 4; Ingraham, J., 5; Leonard, J., 12; Barnard, J., 7; Sutherland, J., 29.

SUPERIOR COURT—GENERAL TERM.

Number of appeals heard, 212; number decided, 179.

One hundred and thirty motions were heard, and 121 decided.

SUPERIOR COURT—SPECIAL TERM.

W. F. Brennan, Clerk.

Number of arguments and motions heard and decided, 3,624.

Naturalizations.—First papers granted, 1,763. Full papers given, 1,050.

SUPERIOR COURT—TRIAL TERM.

Cases tried, 543; inquests, 344; dismissed, 121; referred, 121; settled, 94.

Whole number of judgments obtained and filed, 1,490; amount thereof, $2,374,159 22.

COMMON PLEAS—GENERAL TERM.

Nat. Jarvis, Jr., Clerk.

Appeals from judgments from this and inferior courts, 452. Appeals called for argument, 422. Appeals disposed of, 357.

COMMON PLEAS—SPECIAL TERM.

Issues of law and enumerated motions in the calendar, 73; called for argument, 73; heard and disposed of, 67.

Non-enumerated motions heard and decided in Chambers, including a number of final judgments, 2,047.

Number of insolvent proceedings, 63.

Writs of *habeas corpus* and *certiorari* granted, heard and disposed of, 54; divorces, 14.

Applications for citizenship heard and granted, 2,198; applications denied, 97.

Number of inventories and schedules of property assigned by insolvents for the benefit of creditors, and bonds of assignees examined and approved under the law of April 12, 1860, 444.

Names of persons changed for cause, 7.

COMMON PLEAS—TRIAL TERM.

Causes on General Calendar for July, 4,107
Called by the Court, 2,735.
Tried and disposed of, 563.
Equity causes for trial by the Court, 213.
Called by the Court, 213.
Heard and determined, 94.

The proceedings for the year of the Courts not now given were published in the Times of Dec. 27.

MONETARY AFFAIRS

Sales at the Stock Exchange Jan. 2, 1862

$1,000 U. S. 6s, '74, Cou ex int	79⅝	50	E. Railway Pref	b15	54⅛
2,500 Michigan 7s, War Loan, ex int	87	150	do	b15	54⅝
5,000 Virginia 6s	49	100	do	b30	54
5,000 Missouri 6s	41⅞	50	do	b10	54
5,000 N. Y. Cen. R. R. 7s, Conv. Bds	101	50	do	b15	54
5,000 Erie R. 4th Mt.	30 77	50	do	c	53⅝
2,000 Mich. So. 2d Mt.	85 61	50	Hud. Riv. R	s	38
2,000 Mil. & Pitt. 1st Mt. ex int	80	50	do	s	37⅞
100 Pacific M. S. Co.	s10 93⅛	50	do	b10	37⅞
50 do	93⅝	500	Reading R		35½
100 do	93⅝	400	do	b30	35⅝
100 do	s30 93	100	do		35⅞
100 do	s60 93	100	do	s30	35
50 do	93⅛	1000	do	b30	35⅛
200 do	93	100	do	b30	35⅛
525 New-York Cen. R	79⅝	100	do		35
150 do	snwk 79⅜	500	do	b3	34⅞
do	80	200	Mich. Cen. R		49¼
50 do	b10 79⅞	250	do		49
200 do	s4 79⅜	100	do	b30	48½
50 do	s5 79⅜	50	do	b4	49
100 do	b10 79⅝	50	do	c	48⅝
50 do	79⅞	300	Mich. So. & N. I. R		19⅝
100 Erie Railway	b30 32⅝	20	Gal. & Chi. R		65⅛
850 do	31⅞	250	do	c	65⅛
150 do	31⅞	200	Clev. & Tol. R		35
100 do	s60 31⅞	400	do		31⅞
950 do	32	700	do		34⅛
200 do	b60 32⅛	200	do	s10	34⅛
100 do	b45 32⅛	100	do	b10	34⅛
100 do	b30 32	200	do	b15	35
100 do	b15 32	555	Chi. & R. I. R	c	51
50 do	b30 32⅛	150	do	b30	51⅝
150 do	32⅛	650	do	b30	51⅜
675 Harlem Railroad	12⅜	50	do	b10	51⅞
10 Har. R. Pref	31	650	do	c	51¾
13 M. & P. Du C. 1st Pref	79¼	550	do		51¾
10 M. & P. Du C. 2d Pref	59				

SECOND BOARD.

$5,000 U. S. 6s, '74, Cou ex int	78⅝	400	Erie Railway	s5	32
2,000 U. S. 6s, '81, Con ex int	38	200	do	s10	32
10,000 U. S. 6s, '81, Reg	87	50	do	b30	32⅝
18,000 Ten. State 6s, '90	43	100	do	b30	32⅝
200 Pac. Mail Stp. Co	93⅛	150	Harlem Railroad		12⅝
50 do	s30 93⅛	150	Mich. Central R		49
50 do	s30 93	100	do	s30	49
50 do	b30 93⅛	400	Mich. So. & N. Ind. R		19⅝
50 Erie Railway Pref	33⅛	100	Panama R		111
50 do	33⅛	100	Ill. Cen. R. scrip		62
100 do	s30 33⅛	100	Clev. & Pitts. R		16
100 Hudson River R	37⅛	50	Clev. & Tol. R	b10	35
200 N. Y. Central R	80⅛	100	do		34⅞
100 do	s10 80	25	Chi. & R. I. R		51⅛
150 do	80	50	do	b10	51⅛
500 do	s3 79⅞	25	do	b30	52
8 do	79⅜	16	Mil. & Pra. Du Chn		18⅛
100 do	79⅞	35	Chic. B. & Q. R		57
50 do	b10 79⅞				

THURSDAY, Jan. 2—P. M.

The New Year opens upon a less buoyant temper in Stock and Money affairs than usually follows the inauguration of the season. There is no very serious depression, however, and the dullness in the early part of the day was owing mainly to sundry vague, and as the result proved, unauthorized rumors about the health of the Commander of the army before Washington, Gen. MCCLELLAN, and of doubtful engagements with the rebels in Kentucky. The ugly disposition manifested toward this country in the extracts from some of the English papers by the last arrival, also had a partial effect upon the market. The sales in the forenoon were ¼@½ ₱ cent. lower than the closing rates for the Railways on the eve of New-Year, and at one time the general market appeared quite weak. Later in the day, part of the decline was recovered, particularly on New-York Central and Erie, which sold up to 80 for the former, and 32½ for Erie. In the National Stocks, the bidding was ¼@1 ₱ cent. lower than on Tuesday, and a still greater fall was reported in the sales of Pacific Mail and Panama shares. The Western Railways were almost uniformly weak, as compared with Tuesday's last bids, but closed steady late in the

[illegible] about as follows on the Stock List:

N. Y. Central	79¾	Galena	66
Erie	32	Illinois Central	82
Erie Preferred	53¾	Mich. Central	49
Rock Island	51⅓	Mich. Guaranteed	49⅓
Toledo	34⅛	Hudson	37¾

In the Money Market there is more ease of supply from private lenders than at Bank. The Banks have not yet fully adapted their business to the new state of things under suspension, nor have they arranged all the difficulties growing out of the change of daily settlements at the Clearing House. But these are matters of detail which a few days will undoubtedly set right, and as meanwhile large sums in current funds are being disbursed for the first January dividends, the accumulation of money with the private Banking Houses and Trust Companies affords reasonable facilities to borrowers on the Street at 7 ₱ cent. Demand Loans are quoted at this rate to-day, by the largest of the Stock firms, as easy, by some others as coming rather hard. The price of Gold is a fraction dearer than on Tuesday, say, 101¼@101⅜ ₱ cent., and Exchange on London is advanced in proportion, to 112¼@112½ ₱ cent. currency. The transactions in either are not thus far important for Saturday's mail, but as the collections of January interest for European account are large, the disposition of both Gold and Exchange is to firmness, at the close of the day.

The sales of Bank Shares was confined to two banks—Union at 81, and American Exchange at 78. American Exchange has improved since Tuesday 2½ ₱ cent.

The following were the bids for the Railway Mortgages:

N. Y. Cen. sixes	91⅜	Northern Ia. firsts	84
N. Y. Cen. sevens, '76	101	N. Ia. Goshen Line '68	82½
N. Y. Cen. 7s con. '76	101	M. S. & N. Ia. s. f. ₱ c.	80
Erie firsts, '68	103	Ill. Cen. 7 ₱ c., '75	86
Erie thirds, '83	85	T. H. & A. firsts, 7 ₱ c.	70
Erie fourths, '80	76	T. H. & A. sec'ds, 8 ₱ c.	70 30
Erie fifths, '85	70	Chi. & N. W. s. f.	81¼
Buf., N. Y. & E. firsts	72	Chi. & N. W. firsts, 2d s.	35
Hudson firsts, '69	104½	Chi & N. W. seconds	11
Hudson seconds, s. f., '85	94	Han. & St. J. firsts	30
Hudson thirds, '75	75½	N. J. Cent. firsts	104
Hudson convert. '67	68¼	Gal. & Chi. firsts	98
Harlem firsts, '69–'73	97	Chi. & Rock I. firsts	96
Harlem seconds, '64	93	Ill. C. & Wash firsts	73
Harlem thirds, '68	70	L. E. & Wab. seconds	45
Mich. Cen. n. f. 8 ₱ c. '82	90¾	Clev. & Tol. firsts s. f.	76
Chi., Bur. & Qn. 8 ₱ c.	93	Mil. & Pr. Du C. firsts	79¼
Mich. So. 7 ₱ c. firsts	82	Mil. & Pr. Du Ch. seconds	59
Mich. So. 7 ₱ c. ass'd bs.	60¾		

A private financial authority on the Street, in whose sound and practical judgment we have great confidence, sends us the following suggestions touching the new loans of the National Government. We print his programme, in brief, in the hope that it may elicit discussion, as well as attract all the attention which the immediate and acknowledged importance of the subject deserves. On the points of ample taxation, and the guarantee of a sinking fund there would seem to be no cause for difference of opinion, except, perhaps, as to detail. It is everyway desirable that the forthcoming Loans of the Government should be placed upon that basis of security which will insure the lightest sacrifice by way of discount pending the War, and the least burden in the way of interest charge through the succeeding twenty years that the Stock will have to run after the peace:

1. A tax sufficient to pay, with the aid of the ordinary receipts, the usual and ordinary expenses of the Government.

2. Also a tax, sufficient to pay the interest on the debt.

3. Also, a tax sufficient to pay ten millions ₱ annum into a sinking-fund for the redemption of the principal of the debt. This sum to be invested in the debt semi-annually, together with the accruing interest on the amounts from time to time in the sinking-fund.

Upon this basis the Government could issue Treasury-Notes payable at the pleasure of the Government to its creditors, in sums of five dollars and upwards, to be receivable in payment of all public dues, and made a legal tender, with the privilege on the part of the holders of conversion into a twenty-year loan, bearing interest at the rate of 7 ₱ cent. ₱ annum.

The Panama Company, in paying their shareholders the usual half-yearly dividend of 6 ₱ cent. to-day, have published the following figures of their condition, showing a surplus of earning for the year 1861, over the 12 ₱ cent. dividend to the stockholders on $5,000,000 of Capital, of $248,000, exclusive of $100,000 to the Sinking Fund:

Receipts, from Dec. 31, 1860, to Dec. 31, 1861:

For passengers	$694,414	
For freight, merchandise	630,996	
For freight, treasure	134,144	
For mails	11,515	
For interest, wharfage, light money, &c.	23,789	
For earnings for a portion of December, estimated	45,000	—1,539,859
Total		$1,575,475
Expenses and interest	$611,663	
Dividends	597,420	
Sinking Fund	100,000	
To New-Granada	17,922	—1.327.005
Balance		$248.470
Dr.—Construction account		$8,000,000
Cash—in bank		250,966
Loans on demand		261,942
Cavan, Lubbon & Co., London		102,774
Investment in United States 7.30 per cent. Treasury Notes		100,580
Investment in Company's Sterling Bds., 1865. North Atlantic Steamship Company, representing *five-ninths* steamers Baltic and Atlantic		31,369
Sinking Fund, invested		277,677
Amounts due from agents and others		150,369
Steamer Guatemala, valued		72,981
New steamer Salvador, payments on accounts		115,000
Steamer Columbus, valued		80,580
Interest in sailing vessels, valued		20,000
Steam tug and launches in Bay of Panama, valued		24,000
Real estate, on the Isthmus and Islands in the Bay of Panama, cost		35,000
Coal account, amount on hand		68,446
Total		8,742
		$9,602,530
Cr.—Capital and Convertible Bonds		5,000,000
Funded Debt outstanding		2,466,237
Bonds held by Company		600,000
Undivided profits		1,119,412
January Dividend		307,825
Sinking Fund and book balances		110,054
Total		$9,603 530

The Sub-Treasury receipts to-day were $721,607, including $11,105 on account of the Loan and $73,000 for Customs; payments, $3,262,015, including redeemed 6 ₱ cent. notes. Balance, this afternoon, $6,867,808.

The Long Island Insurance Company has declared an annual payment of 10 ₱ cent., payable on demand. The Jersey City Fire Insurance Company, a semi-annual dividend of 5 ₱ cent. The Hanover Fire Insurance Company, a semi-annual dividend of 6 ₱ cent., payable on demand. The American Fire Insurance Company, an interest of 3½ ₱ cent., payable on demand. The Clinton Fire Insurance Company, a semi-annual dividend of 7 ₱ cent., payable on demand. The National Fire Insurance Company, a semi-annual dividend of 10 ₱ cent., payable on the 9th inst. The Butchers' and Drovers' Bank, the usual semi-annual dividend, payable on the 15th inst. The Commerce Fire Insurance Company, a dividend of 4 ₱ cent., payable on the 10th inst.

Messrs. THOMPSON BROTHERS' quotations for currency and specie are as follows:

	Dis.		Dis.
New-England	¼@—	Ohio and State Bk. of Indiana	¾@—
New-York State	⅜@—	Kentucky	2@—
East New-Jersey	¾@—	Illinois	3@65
West New-Jersey	⅜@—	Missouri	15@50
Pennsylvania	1½@—	Michigan	1@—
Philadelphia	¼@—	Canada	1¼@—
Baltimore	⅜@—	Wisconsin	5@65
Wheeling, Va.	.5@—		

SPECIE—SILVER.

Mexican Dollars	$1 04	English Silver	4 75@4 80
Spanish Dollars	1 04	Specie	1 06
Five-franc Pieces	93	Old Am. Half Dollars	1 02
French Crowns	1 08	Old Am. Quarter Dollars	1 01
German Crowns	1 06	Spanish Quarters, ₱ oz	1 19
Prussian Thalers	69	Spanish ½th & 1-16th	

GOLD.

Victoria Sovereigns	$4 85	Ten Guilder Pieces	$3 97
Old Sovereigns	4 83	Spanish Doubloons	16 25
Twenty Francs	3 83	Patriot Doubloons	15 45
Ten Thaler Pieces	7 82	Gold, Am. Old	.5 ₱ c. prem

Saltpetre.

The following annual review of the trade in this important article has been prepared by Messrs. ROBERT WILLIAMS & SON, of Boston:

"The import of Saltpetre into this market, the past year, exceeds that of the preceding year by 1,212 bags, and the imports into the United States exceeds that of last year by 7,993 bags. As usual, the article has fluctuated considerably through the year, from various causes, the range of prices having been from 8c. @17c. ₱ lb. Early in the year the market was rather quiet, with moderate sales at 9¼c.@9¾c. ₱ lb., six months, and prices gradually declined, with only small sales through January and February. In March the demand was larger, but prices continued to decline, and on the 1st of April the article had reached its lowest point for the year, say 8c. ₱ lb. About the middle of April, higher quotations from England, aided by a speculative demand in consequence of the Southern rebellion, and also by a good demand from consumers, caused large sales, and the article advanced fully 1c. ₱ lb., say to 9c.@9¼c., six months, and closed firm at these rates. The demand in May was rather small, but prices were well maintained. In June and July the demand, which was entirely for consumption, fell off still more, and most of the small mills had stopped operations. On the 1st of August prices had declined again to 8c. @8½c. ₱ lb., 6 mos. In August and September the sales were larger, with some demand for speculation, but at no change in prices. In October the demand was very large from consumers, and with large sales, and a great falling off in shipments from India, prices began again to advance, and on the 1st of November were about 9c. ₱ lb. The demand through November continued large for consumption and speculation, and prices still further advanced, and 1st December were 10c.@10½c., 6 mos., with small stocks in market and an upward tendency. Early in December the article was in favor, and by the 12th of the month had reached 11c. ₱ lb., cash, with considerable sales on the spot

ed, to-day; rates are unchanged. We quote: For Liverpool—Flour, 2s. 6d.@2s. 9d. ₱ bbl.; Wheat, in bulk and bags, 9d.@9½d.; Corn, 9d.@9½d. ₱ bushel; Beef, 6s.@6s. 6d. ₱ tierce; Pork, 4s.@4s. 3d. ₱ bbl.; Bacon and Land, 27s. 6d.@37s. 6d.; Butter and Cheese, 35s.@42s. 6d.; Tallow, 25s.@30s. ₱ ton. For Newport, England, a British brig, with Flour, at 3s. 6d. ₱ bbl.; and Provisions at 35s. ₱ ton. For Glasgow—Flour, 3s.@3s. 3d. ₱ bbl.; Grain, 9½d.@10d. ₱ bushel; Bacon and Lard, 32s. 6d.@35s.; Tallow, 27s. 6d.@30s. ₱ ton. For London—Flour, 3s.@3s. 3d. ₱ bbl.; Grain, 9d.@10d. ₱ bushel; Pork at 5s. 6d. ₱ bbl.; Beef, 7s. ₱ tc.; Hops, ½d. ₱ ₱.; Cheese, 35s.@40s.; Bacon and Lard, 30s.@35s.; Tallow, 30s. ₱ ton. For Cork and orders, a foreign bark, with Corn, at 12½d.; and an American, with do., at 10½d. ₱ bushel. For Havre—Flour, 65c. @70c. ₱ bbl.; and Wheat, 18c. ₱ bushel.

Movements of European Steamers.

FROM EUROPE.

Borussia	Southampton	New-York	Dec. 18
Norwegian	Liverpool	Portland	Dec. 19
John Bell	Glasgow	New-York	Dec. 21
Asia	Liverpool	New-York	Dec. 21
Bremen	Southampton	New-York	Dec. 25
Kangaroo	Liverpool	New-York	Dec. 25
Bohemian	Liverpool	Portland	Dec. 26
Canada	Liverpool	Boston	Dec. 28
City of Baltimore	Liverpool	New-York	Jan. 1
Saxonia	Southampton	New-York	Jan 1
North American	Liverpool	Portland	Jan. 2
Hammonia	Southampton	New-York	Jan. 15
Bavaria	Southampton	New-York	Jan. 29

FROM AMERICA.

Arago	New-York	Southampton	Jan. 4
Nova Scotian	Portland	Liverpool	Jan. 4
Edinburgh	New-York	Liverpool	Jan. 4
St. Andrew	New-York	Glasgow	Jan. 7
Niagara	Boston	Liverpool	Jan. 8
Etna	New-York	Liverpool	Jan. 11
Asia	New-York	Liverpool	Jan. 15
Kangaroo	New-York	Liverpool	Jan. 18
John Bell	New-York	Glasgow	Jan. 21
City of Baltimore	New-York	Liverpool	Jan. 24

Mails Close at the Post-office.

North Mails close at ..... 5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
South Mails close at ..... 5 A. M. and 4:30 and 10 P. M.
Western Mails (*via* Erie Railroad) close at ..... 5 A. M. and 3:30 P. M.
Eastern Mails close at ..... 5 A. M., 2 P. M. and 6:30 P. M.

Mails for California, Oregon, Washington and the Sandwich Islands close daily at the New-York Post-office at 8½ A. M. and 3½ P. M.

On Sunday all Mails close at 1:30 P. M.

PERSONAL.

STEPHEN FILES, ASSIGNEE OF WILLIAM THOMPSON, OF SAVANNAH, GA.—The above parties, or their legal representatives, will hear of something to their advantage by applying to PLANT, GERARD & BUCKLEY, No. 27 Wall-st., New-York, or to WILLIAM C. BARSTOW, No. 99 State-st., Boston.

AUCTION SALES.

DANIEL A. MATHEWS, Auctioneer.

CLOSING SALE OF RICH PARIS FANCY GOODS.

DANIEL A. MATTHEWS WILL SELL,

THIS DAY, (Friday,) at 10½ o'clock, at his salesrooms, No. 79 Nassau-st., between Fulton and John sts., to close consignments, a fine assortment of bronzes, clocks, elegant vases, dinner and tea-sets of French china, silver-plated ware, Parian and bisque figures, desks, papier-maché goods, jewel-boxes, cigar-cabinets, odeur-cases, gilt and ormulo goods, and numerous other beautiful articles suitable for holiday season.

SALE POSITIVELY WITHOUT RESERVE.

PEED & COLE, Auctioneers.

FORECLOSURE OF MORTGAGE.—SALE of Wilder's Sale Factory and 19 lots, corner of 13th-st. and 3d-av., Brooklyn, by Peed & Cole, at the salesroom No. 343 Fulton-st., Brooklyn, SATURDAY, Jan 4, 1862, at 12 o'clock, large brick 3-story building, with steam-engine, boilers, shafting &c., erected at a cost of over $30,000, will be sold under a decree on which $13,500 is due, by order of J. I. Bergen, Referee. To army contractors, or others requiring a large building, this is an excellent opportunity, as the sale will be positive.

JOHN P. ROLFE, Attorney,
No. 1 Montague-st., Brooklyn.

HENRY H. LEEDS, Auctioneer.

HENRY H. LEEDS & CO. WILL SELL at auction, on SATURDAY, Jan. 4, at 10½ o'clock, at the salesroom, No. 23 Nassau-st., household furniture, consisting of Brussels and ingrain carpets, oak extension dining table, mahogany marble-top dressing bureaus, mahogany marble-top centre, side and pier tables, gilt-frame mantle mirrors, lace window curtains, mahogany bedstead, mahogany and iron hat-stands, mahogany sofas and chairs covered in hair-cloth.

HENRY H. LEEDS, Auctioneer.

HENRY H. LEEDS & CO. WILL SELL at auction, on SATURDAY, Jan. 4, at 12 o'clock, in front of store No. 23 Nassau-st.:

A pair carriage horses, 16½ hands high, brown bays, and cost over $1 000. They are to be sold without any reserve whatever, as the owner is leaving the City. Also, a bay mare, long tail, 16 hands high, kind and gentle in all harness. Also a light business wagon in good order; also a single harness. The whole to be sold without reserve.

E. H. LUDLOW & Co., Auctioneers.

WE WOULD CALL ATTENTION TO THE sale of valuable property at Morrisania and Fordham, to be sold at auction THIS DAY, by E. H. LUDLOW & CO., at 12 o'clock, at the Merchants' Exchange, New-York. Further particulars at the office, 3 Pine-st.

J. F. DUNCAN, Auctioneer.

J. F. DUNCAN & CO. WILL SELL, AT NO. 111 Nassau-st., THIS DAY, Jan. 3, at 10½ o'clock, a variety of Stoves to close the stock, consisting of parlor, cook and office stoves and heaters. Sale without reserve.

BOARDING AND LODGING.

A PRIVATE FAMILY HAVING AN UNOCcupied furnished room on the second floor, front, would let it with board to a gentleman and his wife, or to one or two gentlemen; terms, including fire and gas, $8 per week; reference required. Apply at No. 136 East Broadway.

BOARD ON BROOKLYN HEIGHTS.—Pleasant front rooms, neatly furnished, with full or partial board; situation delightful, and only three minutes' walk from Fulton and Wall-st. Ferries. Apply at No. 37 Cranberry-st., near Columbia, Brooklyn.

A GENTLEMAN AND HIS WIFE WISH a room and board, in a small boarding-house or a private family, in the neighborhood of Madison-square. Two other gentlemen would take board alone at the same place. Address No. 204 5th-av., Room No. 3.

ROOMS AND FULL BOARD WANTED, in a private family, by two or three European gentlemen. Address, with full particulars, O. G., Box No. 546, Post-office.

15 EAST SIXTEENTH-ST., BETWEEN Broadway and 5th-av., handsomely furnished rooms to let, in suites or single. House has all the modern improvements.

HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

WALKING CANES.

USEFUL AND ELEGANT HOLIDAY PRESENTS.

Gold, Silver and Ivory Mounted
WALKING CANES
Of every description and price, from
25 cents to $40.

THE LARGEST, CHEAPEST
AND
BEST ASSORTMENT
In the City, can be found at
A. COX'S SON'S,
No. 25 Maiden-lane.

ELEGANT HOLIDAY PRESENT.—"LE Bouquet Imperial," the perfume Princess Clotilde called "delightful," and of which Prince Napoleon ordered $50 worth to be sent to the Palais Royal, Paris, sold by the manufacturer, GEO. REYNOLDS, No. 269 Court-st., Brooklyn, and by druggists and perfumers generally, at 50 cents per bottle.

SKATES.

SKATES.

ENGLISH SKATES.
AMERICAN SKATES.
GERMAN SKATES.

For sale wholesale and retail by
OSBORN & SWAN,
Nos. 33 and 34 Fulton-st.

SKATES, SKATES, SKATES and straps of every description. Fogg's patent lever buckle on straps. FREDERICK STEVENS,
No. 215 Pearl-st.

FURS.

FURS! FURS!!—FOR HOLIDAY PRESENTS.—$150,000 worth of Ladies' Rich Furs must be sold, regardless of cost, comprising real Hudson Bay Sables, Mink, Stone, and Fitch Marten, Ermine, Siberian Squirrel, &c., in Circular Cloaks, Carriage Capes, Victorines, Muffs, Cuffs, &c. No reasonable offer refused. Store closed on Saturdays until 5 o'clock P. M.

P. H. PHILLIPS, No. 279 Grand-st., N. Y.

N. B.—A large assortment of Sleigh Robes, Gents' Collars, &c.

CHOICE FURS.—NO. 49 BROADWAY, CLOSING at retail much below usual prices.

S. GOGE, Practical Furrier.

FINANCIAL.

THE PUBLIC ARE HEREBY CAUTIONED against receiving or negotiating a certain promissory note, dated April 1, 1855, for $10,000, payable on demand, drawn by George Baxter, and indorsed by C. M. Baxter, and now protested for non-payment. As the name of the subscriber was indorsed on the above note without his knowledge, while absent from the City, by George Baxter, he is neither morally nor legally liable for the same.

Jan. 3, 1862. C. M. BAXTER.

INTEREST COUPONS—OF UNITED STATES and New-York State bonds cashed, and specie bought and sold by LIVERMORE, CLEWS & CO.,
Bankers, Nos. 41 and 43 Wall-st.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

$30.000.—WANTED—A SPECIAL OR ACtive partner with this amount, in a banking and stock commission house, where the capital is safe, and profits large. To principals applying, the best of reference shall be given. Address Box No. 2,186 Post-Office, New-York.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

AS COOK.—WANTED, A SITUATION, BY A respectable Protestant girl, as professed cook; understands boning and larding, meats, soups, jellies and pastry, and is a good baker; no objection to the country; has New-City recommendations. Call at or address No. 61 West 19th-st., near 6th-av.

AS COOK.—A RESPECTABLE, STEADY WOman wishes a situation as first class cook in a private family. Understands both business thoroughly. Best city reference can be given. Call at the City Market, corner Broadway and 22d-st., for two days.

AS COOK.—WANTED, A SITUATION, BY A RE-spectable woman, as first-class meat and pastry cook, understands cooking all kinds of meats, pastries, &c.; no objections to a first-class boarding-house; best references. Call at No. 39 5th-st., between Bowery and 2d-av.

AS COOK.—WANTED, BY A RESPECTABLE woman, a situation as first-class cook, and would also assist in the washing and ironing; has the best of City reference. Call at No. 96 West 16th-st.

AS COOK, &c.—WANTED, A SITUATION, BY a respectable middle-aged widow woman, as cook or housekeeper for a widower; would make herself generally useful; no objection to children. Call for two days at No. 61 12th-st., between 5th and 6th avs.; English.

AS COOK, WASHER AND IRONER.—A situation wanted, by a respectable girl, who is a good cook, washer and ironer, and will have no objection to do general housework in a small family; is a good baker of bread and biscuit; has good City reference from her last place. Can be seen at No. 57 West 44th-st.

AS COOK, WASHER AND IRONER.—A situation wanted by a young woman as good plain cook, washer and ironer, and is a first-rate baker; no objection to a short distance in the country; has the best of City reference from her last place. Call for two days at No. 19 6th-st., third floor, front room.

AS NURSE.—SITUATION WANTED BY A RE-spectable middle-aged woman as nurse. Can take the care and management of a baby from its birth. Would make herself generally useful, or would take charge of an invalid. Can be seen for two days at No. 56 Macdougal-st., rear house.

AS NURSE.—WANTED, BY A COMPETENT tidy woman, with excellent City reference, a situation as nurse; takes charge of a baby from its birth; is quick at the needle; no objection to a lady that boards; wages, $6 in a permanent situation. Call, or address, at No. 184 East 21st-st., two days.

AS NURSE, &c.—WANTED, A SITUATION, BY a young woman, as nurse and seamstress; can take the entire charge of an infant; would do chamberwork and take care of children; can be recommended by excellent families in this City and in Brooklyn. Call for two days at No. 146 3d-av., between 15th and 16th sts., in the rear, first floor.

AS NURSE AND SEAMSTRESS.—WANTED, by a respectable Protestant girl, a situation as nurse and seamstress in a private family; can take charge of a child from its birth; has the best references; will also do chamberwork and fine washing. Call at No. 81 West 36th-st., for two days.

AS SEAMSTRESS, &c.—WANTED, BY A respectable young English woman, a situation as seamstress, or to take care of children; understands cutting and fitting children's clothes, and all kinds of family sewing; is willing to make herself useful; neat, cleanly, good tempered and obliging; best of City reference. No objection to the country. Call for two days at No. 107 East 13th-st., near 3d-av.

AS SEAMSTRESS, &c.—A RESPECTABLE girl wishes employment by the week or month; understands how to cut and fit children's clothing, and dressmaking, and all kinds of family sewing; is a neat plain sewer. Good reference, if required. Can be seen until suited. Apply at No. 160 31st-st., between 1st and 2d avs., first floor.

AS SEAMSTRESS, &c.—WANTED, BY A A person who is a good seamstress, a situation as seamstress and to take care of children; has lived several years in her last place; has excellent City references. Address E. D. K., Madison-square Post-office.

FREE TO EMPLOYERS.—HOUSEKEEPERS will please notice, that we furnish, free of any charge, female help, such as are well qualified and highly recommended to fill any station, in City or country—cooks, chambermaids, waiters, nurses, seamstresses, housekeepers, &c. Call at LOWERRE'S first-class Agency, No. 320 4th-av., near 25th-st.

COOKS, CHAMBERMAIDS, WAITERS, NURSES, SEAMSTRESSES, HOUSEKEEPERS, &c.—N. B. Positively none but nice, tidy, sober, honest, competent and obliging girls need come. Only good families and first-class servants furnished at LOWERRE'S office, No. 320 4th-av., near 25th-st.

WASHING WANTED—BY A RESPECTABLE woman, who can give the best of City reference as to capability, respectability, &c.; can do up articles in any style. Call on Mrs. BOYLE, No. 20 West 13th-st., in the rear.

A LADY WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN A place in a gallery to color pictures, sell cases, &c., or would color lithographs, maps, or anything in that line. Address COLORIST, Box No. 101 *Times* Office.

MALES.

AS CLERK OR SALESMAN—WANTED by an experienced person, a position as clerk or salesman, in a grocery or variety store. The best of reference. Address G. A. C., Box No. 166, Harlem, N. Y., or G. A. CLARKE, Box No. 155, Newport, R. I.

AS HARDWARE CLERK.—WANTED, A SItuation in a hardware house, by a young man who has had eight years' experience in the business, and can furnish the best of references. Address H. T., Box No. 146 *Times* Office.

AS COACHMAN AND GROOM.—WANTED, by a young Englishman, a situation. He is a thorough groom and coachman; understands the care of horses well; is a very careful driver; understands waiting on table if required; is willing to make himself otherwise useful. Can give the best of reference from his last place. No objections to the country. Address J. W. W., Box No. 219, *Times* Office, or can be seen at No. 120 Hamilton-av., South Brooklyn.

AS SALESMAN.—A SALESMAN, WITH A large Ohio and Indiana trade, desires a situation in a first-class jobbing house; reference to last employers, now declining business. Address OHIO, Box No. 153 *Times* Office.

AS WAITER.—WANTED, BY AN ENGLISH Protestant man, a situation as waiter; is thoroughly competent; can give unexceptionable references as to character and capability; would like to go to Washington. Apply to C. C. BEDELL, No. 149 Grand-st.

TO MANUFACTURERS AND WHOLESALE HOUSES.—A Commercial Traveler, of ten years' experience, will shortly make a tour through the West. In addition to commissions already engaged, he would like to add one or two more from houses of good standing and reliability. Address G. W. M., Box No. 150 *Times* Office.

WANTED—A SITUATION BY AN AMERICAN married man, to take charge of a gentleman's country residence, or could take charge of a farm; thoroughly understands taking care of cattle and horses; has no children. Address S. S., Box No. 210 *Times* Office.

WANTED—EMPLOYMENT OF ANY KIND BY A stout young man, who has had four years' experience as clerk in a first-class grocery. Address L. A. C., Box No. 134 *Times* Office.

HELP WANTED.

AGENTS CAN MAKE $5 PER DAY—MALE or female, selling Lloyd's great steel-plate Military Map and Gazeteer of the fifteen Southern States; five feet square; worth $10, price only fifty cents. Lloyd's $100,000 steel-plate Topographical Map of Virginia, five feet square. This is the only map used by Gen. McClellan, worth $20, price 25 cents. Lloyd's official steel-plate Map of Missouri; worth $5, price 25 cents. Lloyd's $5 Railroad Map of America, 3,000,000 copies of which have already been sold; price 25 cents. Agents supplied at half the retail prices, and maps warranted. Maps sent by mail anywhere for two cents postage.

J. T. LLOYD, American Map Publisher, No. 164 Broadway, and Louisville, Ky.

$100—Wanted, a smart young man to open an office in Cincinnati, and take the exclusive wholesale agency for all of Lloyd's great Military Maps, which sell like the wind. One hundred dollars is sufficient capital. To a young man who will follow instructions, $100 a week may be made. Also, agents to go to Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Canada, Detroit, Indianapolis, and Rochester, N. Y., and every other State.

$500—Wanted, an enterprising man, to go to California, and take the exclusive agency for all of Lloyd's great Military Maps. A fortune can be made on these maps in California. Over 3,000,000 copies of one of my maps have been sold in the States, already. Also, a man to go to Havana, South America, Mexico, Germany, and Italy. France and England are taken, and agents coining money.

LLOYD'S MAPS ARE IN FRENCH, SPANISH, GERMAN AND ITALIAN.

EVIDENCE OF THE CORRECTNESS
OF
LLOYD'S MAPS.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 2, 1861.

J. T. LLOYD, Publisher:

SIR: Please forward immediately, by mail, directed to the secretary of State, Copies of Lloyd's Topographical Map of Virginia, Lloyd's Military Map and Gazetteer of the Southern States, Lloyd's Official Map of Missouri, and Lloyd's American Railroad Map. Send your bill to George E. Baker, Disbursing Clerk. Also send me circulars of all new maps you may issue. Respectfully, yours,
J. C. DERBY, Librarian State Department.

From the New-York Herald, Nov. 2, 1861.

We have received a fine copy of Lloyd's great Military Map of the "Seat of War in Virginia." This is the best and only official map in existence, taken from actual surveys by order of the Executive. It is beautifully printed from steel plates, and colored with great perfection of art, and is the only map used in the planning of our campaigns in Virginia by our Commander-in-chief. The publisher is J. T. Lloyd, No. 164 Broadway.
BUFFALO, N. Y., Nov. 8, 1861.

J. T. LLOYD, Esq.

SIR: I am well pleased with your Map of Virginia. It is altogether the best I have seen. I inclose $1 for three copies of Lloyd's great steel-plate Military Map of the Southern States. Respectfully yours,
MILLARD FILLMORE.

WANTED—AN INTELLIGENT MAN, BETWEEN 25 and 35 years of age, who is a good accountant, and has some knowledge of machinery, to superintend the general business of a manufacturing establishment and to reside in this City. Address Box No. 2,025 Post-office, with references. No application will be entertained unless full references are given.

A LADY'S MAID AND SEAMSTRESS wanted, to go to Washington; also, a Protestant nurse and seamstress; must be a good seamstress and take care of a girl six years of age. Apply at No. 149 Grand-st., immediately.

A BOY.—WANTED, A SMART, INTELLIGENT boy, living in Brooklyn; one that writes a good hand, and is willing to make himself generally useful; salary, first year, $50. Apply at No. 121 Broad-st.

COPARTNERSHIP NOTICES.

NOTICE.—THE LIMITED PARTNERSHIP HERETOfore existing under the firm of WOODWARD & LAWRENCE, wherein ROBERT T. WOODWARD and HENRY E. LAWRENCE were the general partners, and JOSEPH LAWRENCE and STILMAN S. CLAFF were the special partners, is dissolved by limitation. The business will be settled by the general partners.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1862.

The undersigned have this day formed a copartnership under the firm of WOODWARD, LAWRENCE & CO., and will continue the Dry Goods Commission Business at Nos. 91 Chambers and 73 Reade sts., to which place they will remove on or about Jan. 6.

ROBERT T. WOODWARD,
HENRY E. LAWRENCE,
FRANKLIN E. TAYLOR,
JOB C. BOWRON.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1862.

DISSOLUTION.—THE COPARTNERSHIP FIRM of WILLIAM H. LEE & CO., heretofore composed of the undersigned, is this day dissolved by its own limitation. WM. H. LEE and JUSTIN A. BLISS will sign in liquidation.

WILLIAM H. LEE,
JUSTIN A. BLISS,
O. P. DORMAN,
GEO. D. PITKIN,
GORDON McTAGGART.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1862.

COPARTNERSHIP.—The undersigned have this day formed a copartnership under the firm of LEE, BLISS & CO., for the transaction of a general dry goods importing and jobbing business at Nos. 314 and 316 Broadway.

WILLIAM H. LEE,
JUSTIN A. BLISS,
GORDON McTAGGART,
JOHN A. TWEEDY.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1862.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 31, 1861.

THE COPARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE existing under the firm of GOODHUE & CO., is this day dissolved by mutual consent.

The outstanding concerns of the house will be adjusted by either of the partners, who will use the signature of the firm in liquidation.

ROBERT C. GOODHUE,
CHARLES C. GOODHUE,
PELATIAH PERIT,
RICHARD WARREN WESTON,
HORACE GRAY.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1862.

The undersigned have this day formed a copartnership, under the firm of WESTON & GRAY, and will continue the business heretofore conducted by GOODHUE & CO.

RICHARD WARREN WESTON.
HORACE GRAY.

DISSOLUTION OF COPARTNERSHIP.—The copartnership heretofore existing in this City under the name D. S. ARNOLD & CO., is this day dissolved by its own limitation. All business appertaining to this firm will be settled by the new firm of D. S. ARNOLD & CO., No. 28 Warren-st.

D. S. ARNOLD,
H. F. DOOLITTLE,
MADISON MIXTER,
T. C. GOETCHIUS,
LAWSON ARMS.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 31, 1861.

The undersigned have this day formed a copartnership under the name of D. S. ARNOLD & CO., for the transaction of a general fancy goods importing and jobbing business, No. 28 Warren-st.

D. S. ARNOLD,
MADISON MIXTER,
T. C. GOETCHIUS,
LAWSON ARMS,
THOS. J. ROBERTS.

THE PARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE existing under the firm of J. R. JAFFRAY & SONS, is this day dissolved, by mutual consent. The debts will be collected and paid by EDWARD S. JAFFRAY, who will sign in liquidation.

J. R. JAFFRAY,
EDWARD S. JAFFRAY,
ARTHUR W. JAFFRAY.

No. 350 Broadway, New-York, Dec. 31, 1861.

The business will be continued by the undersigned, under the firm of E. S. JAFFRAY & CO.

EDWARD S. JAFFRAY,
J. W. BARROW.

No. 350 Broadway, New-York, Dec. 31, 1861.

DISSOLUTION OF COPARTNERSHIP.—The copartnership heretofore existing between the undersigned, under the firm of SMITH & PAYNE, is this day dissolved by mutual consent. Either partner is authorized to sign in liquidation.

NATHAN SMITH.
AUGUSTUS W. PAYNE.

Dated NEW-YORK, Dec. 31, 1861.

NOTICE.

A. W. PAYNE, late of the firm of Messrs. Smith & Payne, having purchased their entire stock, will continue the same business on his own account, at 85 and 87 John-st.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 31, 1861.

DISSOLUTION.—THE COPARTNERSHIP heretofore existing, under the firm-name of CARPENTER & VERMILYE, is this day dissolved, by mutual consent. Mr. GEORGE CARPENTER retiring therefrom.

GEORGE CARPENTER.
W. R. VERMILYE.
W. M. VERMILYE.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 31, 1861.

The undersigned will continue the exchange, banking and stock commission business at No. 44 Wall-st., under the firm of VERMILYE & COMPANY.

W. M. VERMILYE.
W. R. VERMILYE.

NEW-YORK, Dec. 31, 1861.

THE COPARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE existing between the undersigned, under the firm of STEBBINS, HOYT & CO., expires this day by limitation. Mr. RUSSEL STEBBINS and Mr. RUFUS HOYT, or either of them, are authorized to settle the business and sign in liquidation.

RUSSEL STEBBINS,
RUFUS HOYT,
NATHANIEL BROWN,
RUSSEL STEBBINS, Jr.

NEW-YORK, December 31, 1861.

DISSOLUTION OF COPARTNERSHIP.—The copartnership heretofore existing between JOHNSON & BROWNING is this day dissolved by mutual consent. R. C. BROWNING will settle up the accounts of the firm of Johnson & Browning, and A. J. JOHNSON will continue the business of publishing, &c., at No. 56 Cedar-st., New-York. All parties having accounts with the firm will please call upon Mr. BROWNING, at No. 56 Cedar-st. and settle the same. A. J. JOHNSON.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1862. R. C. BROWNING.

H. W. MASON RETIRES FROM OUR firm this day, and THEODORE S. FOWLER is admitted. The style of the firm will be LIVERMORE, CLEWS & CO. from this date.

LIVERMORE, CLEWS & MASON.

H. W. MASON will remove to Boston, and continue the banking business at No. 119 Milk-st., under the firm of H. W. MASON & CO.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1862.

DISSOLUTION OF COPARTNERSHIP.—The copartnership heretofore existing between the subscribers, under the firm of INGOLDSBY, HALSTED & CO., expires this day by its own limitation, and is dissolved.

The settlement of the business of the late firm will be attended to by the undersigned, at their store, No. 16 Warren-st.

FELIX INGOLDSBY,
D. C. HALSTED,
E. M. INGOLDSBY.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1862.

NOTICE.—THE COPARTNERSHIP HERETOfore existing under the name of CHURCHILL, ROGERS & WETMORE, is this day dissolved by mutual consent. Either partner is authorized to sign the name of the firm in liquidation.

(Signed) WM. H. CHURCHILL,
HENRY ROGERS,
THEODORE R. WETMORE.

No. 220 Pearl-st.

THE COPARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE existing under the name and style of LEWIS HAVILAND & CO., is dissolved by mutual consent, from and after the 31st of December, 1861.

JOHN D. LEWIS will continue the business at the old stand, No. 101 Chambers-st., New-York.

Mr. ARTHUR M. COCK, the former cashier, is authorized to sign the firm name in liquidation.

THE UNDERSIGNED HAVE THIS DAY formed a copartnership, under the firm of Louderback, Gilbert & Co., for the transaction of a general hardware business, at No. 23 Park-row, as successors to the late firm of Mooney, Cohn & Co.

DAVID LOUDERBACK,
JOHN A. GILBERT,
WILLIAM S. LOUDERBACK.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1862.

No. 44 EXCHANGE-PLACE, NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1862.

MR. JOHN CRERAR IS THIS DAY ADMITted as a partner in our firm. The business of the house will be continued under the same firm name.

M. K. JESUP & CO.

NOTICE.—THE FIRM OF KIRTLAND & CO., having been dissolved by the death of the senior partner, and also by limitation of time, the undersigned will settle the business of said firm, and will also continue the Banking business in his own name, at No. 24 Pine-st.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1862. H. W. PALMER.

THE COPARTNERSHIP HERETOFORE existing under the firm of BROWN & BLAKE, expires this day by its own limitation. The business of the firm will be closed by either of the general partners.

NEW-YORK, Jan. 1, 1862.

FARMS.

FARMS FOR SALE IN DUTCHESS COUNTY.—A farm of 20½ acres, situated about half a mile east of Hart's Village, and 16 miles from Poughkeepsie, and 8 miles from the Harlem Railroad Depôt, at Dover Plains. The mail stage passes to and from Poughkeepsie daily. A good boarding and day school within about 1½ miles, and meetings of different persuasions within a short distance. The dwelling-house is nearly new and modern built, 26 feet front by 36 feet deep on the ground. The first floor consists of a hall, two good-sized parlors, with an extension room connected by sliding doors; a lodging-room, bath-room, and water closet. Second floor, four good-sized lodging rooms, with large garret above, a wing attached to the main building for dining-room and library, with two good lodging rooms, and store room above, with a private stairway. A large cellar under the whole. A kitchen, wash-room, and milk-room, with water constantly running into the wash-room, and to the barn-yard. A large barn, 26 by 54 feet; a young orchard just coming into bearing, of apples, pears, plums, and cherries. Also, grapes, currants, strawberries, Antwerp raspberries, Lawton blackberries, &c., with a great deal of shrubbery about the place.

Also, a farm of 20½ acres on the opposite side of the Turnpike. On the premises is a cottage and a tenant house, with a stable for two horses, and a large barn 30 by 60 feet. Will be sold separate or together. For terms, &c., apply to L. BARROW, on the premises.

FARM FOR SALE—CONTAINING ABOUT 600 acres—situated in Wisconsin, about 70 acres under cultivation, well fenced, farm well watered, plenty of timber; house, barn and out-buildings; would exchange for property in New-York or Kings County. For further particulars inquire of T. J. NORTHELL, No. 369 Fulton-st., Brooklyn.

FOR SALE, A NORTH RIVER FARM OF 30 ACRES—With fine views, abundance of choice fruit, good plain buildings; ½ mile from landing, and 30 miles from New-York. PRICE TO SUIT THE TIMES.

C. H. OLIVER, NO. 51 LIBERTY ST.

COAL OIL.—FIFTY BARRELS WESTERN straw-colored burning coal oil, of a superior quality, at 37½ cents. 5 bbls. best Naptha at 25 cents. By CHAS. SCHMIDT, Depôt, No. 93 Maiden-lane, New-York.

SHIPPING.

THE BRITISH AND NORTH AMERICAN ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIPS.

PASSPORTS.—All persons leaving the United States will require to have *Passports* from the authorities of their respective countries, countersigned by the Secretary of State at Washington, or by the Passport Agent at port of embarkation.

FROM NEW-YORK TO LIVERPOOL.

Chief Cabin Passage $130
Second Cabin Passage 75

FROM BOSTON TO LIVERPOOL.

Chief Cabin Passage $110
Second Cabin Passage 60

The ships from New-York call at Cork harbor.

The ships from Boston call at Halifax and Cork harbor.

PERSIA, Capt. Judkins. AFRICA, Capt. Shannon.
ARABIA, Capt. J. Stone. CANADA, Capt. J. Leitch.
ASIA, Capt. E. G. Lott. AMERICA, Capt. Muir.
AUSTRALASIAN, Capt. Cook. NIAGARA, Capt. Moodie.
EUROPA, Capt. Anderson.
SCOTIA, (now building.)

These vessels carry a clear white light at masthead; green on starboard bow; red on port bow.

AMERICA, Stone, leaves New-York, Wednesday, January 1.

NIAGARA, Moodie, leaves Boston, Wednesday, January 8.

ASIA, Lott, leaves New-York, Wednesday, January 15.

CANADA, Muir, leaves Boston, Wednesday, Jan. 22.

AFRICA, Shannon, leaves New-York, Wednesday, January 29.

Berths not secured until paid for.

An experienced Surgeon on board.

The owners of these ships will not be accountable for Gold, Silver, Bullion, Specie, Jewelry, Precious Stones or Metals, unless bills of lading are signed therefor, and the value therefor therein expressed. For freight or passage, apply to E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling Green.

FOR HAVANA.

The United States Mail Steamship
COLUMBIA,
R. ADAMS, U. S. N., Commander,
will leave Pier No. 4, North River, for Havana direct, on THURSDAY, Jan. 9, at 12 o'clock noon, precisely.

Passengers must provide themselves with passports before going on board.

All letters must pass through the Post-office.

For freight or passage apply to
SPOFFORD, TILESTON & CO.,
No. 29 Broadway.

NOTICE TO PASSENGERS FOR EUROPE.

By order of the Secretary of State, all passengers leaving the United States are required to provide themselves with passports before they will be allowed on board the steamer.

Passengers will not be subjected to any trouble or delay in procuring them if they call for instructions at the Company's Offices, No. 15 Broadway, New-York.

JOHN G. DALE, Agent.

STEAM WEEKLY BETWEEN NEW-YORK AND LIVERPOOL.—Landing and embarking passengers at Queenstown, Ireland. The Liverpool, New-York and Philadelphia Steamship Company intend dispatching their full-powered Clyde-built Iron Steamships as follows:

EDINBURGH ..... SATURDAY, Jan. 4
ATNA ..... SATURDAY, Jan. 11
KANGAROO ..... SATURDAY, Jan. 18

And every SATURDAY, at noon, from Pier No. 44 North River.

RATES OF PASSAGE.

First Cabin ..... $75 | Steerage $30
First Cabin to London ..... 80 | Steerage to London 33
First Cabin to Paris ..... 5 | Steerage to Paris 38
First Cabin to Hamburg ..... 85 | Steerage to Hamburg 35

Passengers also forwarded to Havre, Bremen, Rotterdam, Antwerp, &c., at equally low rates.

Persons wishing to bring out their friends can buy tickets here at the following rates, to New-York: From Liverpool or Queenstown, First Cabin, $75, $80 and $185. Steerage from Liverpool, $40. From Queenstown, $30.

These Steamships have superior accommodations for passengers, and carry experienced Surgeons. They are built in water-tight iron sections, and have patent fire annihilators on board.

For further information apply in Liverpool, to WILLIAM INMAN, Agent, No. 22 Water-st.; in Glasgow to WM. INMAN, No. 5 St. Enoch-square; in Queenstown to A. W. KENNEDY; in PARIS, to EIVES & MACEY, No. 61 King William-st.; in Paris to JULES DECOUE, No. 5 Place de la Bourse; in Philadelphia to JOHN G. DALE, No. 111 Walnut-st., or at the Company's Offices.

JOHN G. DALE, Agent, No. 15 Broadway, N. Y.

THE NORTH GERMAN LLOYD'S STEAMship BREMEN, H. WESSAS commander, carrying the United States Mail, will sail from Pier No. 30 North River, foot of Chambers-st., on

SATURDAY, Jan. 18, at 12 o'clock M.,

for BREMEN VIA SOUTHAMPTON AND BREMEN, taking passengers to
LONDON, HAVRE, SOUTHAMPTON AND BREMEN, at the following rates:

For the first cabin, $100; second cabin, $60; steerage, $35.

For freight or passage apply to
OELRICHS & CO., No. 62 Broad-st.

FOR HAVANA, VIA NASSAU, N. P.—THE British and North American Royal Mail Steamship ARNAK, Capt. LE MESSURIER, will sail for the above ports, from the Company's wharf at Jersey City, on

TUESDAY ..... Jan. 7, 1862 | MONDAY ..... March 3
TUESDAY ..... Feb. 4, 1862 | SATURDAY ..... March 29

Passage money to Nassau $45
Passage money to Havana 60

All persons leaving the United States are required to have passports from the authorities of their respective countries, countersigned by the Secretary of State at Washington, or by the Passport Agent at port of embarkation.

For freight or passage apply to
E. CUNARD, No. 4 Bowling-green.

REMITTANCE TO IRELAND, &c.—THE Subscriber & Co. continue to draw drafts, as they have done for the past twenty-nine years. Those wishing to remit money to their friends can be supplied with drafts for any amount, payable on demand in any part of Great Britain or Ireland, by applying at their old-established place of business, No. 65 Southst., New-York.

UNITED STATES PASSPORT BUREAU, No. 262 Broadway.—Passports issued through J. B. NONES' free of charge, upon proofs made before him.

RAILROADS.

NEW-YORK, HARLEM & ALBANY R. R. FOR ALBANY, TROY, NORTH AND WEST.

Winter Arrangement, commencing Monday, Nov. 4, 1861.

For Albany—10:30 A. M. Express Mail Train, from 26th-st. depôt.

For all local trains, see time-table.

JOHN BURCHILL, Ass't. Sup't.

IMPORTANT FREIGHT NOTICE.—WINTER ARRANGEMENT.—The People's line, in connection with the Harlem and Central Railroads, for the transportation of freight between New-York and Albany during the close of navigation on the Hudson River. Freight for and from the West, on New-York Central Railroad and connections, will be received and delivered at the docks of the People's Line of steamers, foot of Cortlandt-st., same as in summer. There will be no interruption at the close of navigation. The rates will be as low as by any other route. The consignments from the West should be made to People's Line as heretofore.

P. C. SMITH, Agent People's Line.

NEW-YORK AND

LATER FROM PORT ROYAL.

NO NEW MOVEMENTS REPORTED.

Necessity for Opening Trade Between Beaufort and the North.

A Reminiscence of the "Solitary White Man."

The National and Rebel Pickets Within Speaking Distance.

The United States steam-transport *Ariel*, Capt. TRAIN, arrived yesterday morning from Port Royal, which place she left Dec. 28.

She brings no news. Everything remained quiet, and the work upon the fortifications was rapidly progressing.

The *Ariel* brings the following passengers: Capt. R. L. GRACE, of the Pennsylvania Roundheads; Capt. CHAS. MCILVAIN, of the Ninety-seventh Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers; Lieut. SEHLEHER, of the Forty-sixth Regiment New-York State Volunteers; Lieut. MCNALLY, of the Forty-seventh New-York State Volunteers, and 36 others from the army and fleet including some workmen.

OUR BEAUFORT CORRESPONDENCE.

The Changes Effected in the Town—Vessels at the Wharves—Necessity for Opening Trade—A Defence of the "Solitary White Man"—Brigade Drill—A Sight at Secesh—Badinage of the Pickets, &c.

BEAUFORT, S. C., Friday, Dec. 28, 1861.

It would astonish the beauty and the chivalry, the late residents of this pretty town, were they to return once more, and look upon the homes which they have so causelessly deserted. The changes are extraordinary. That languid, listless quiet which characterized this abode of luxury and ease, has been disturbed, and in its place there now is found the energy and busy life of a commercial town. The provisions and supplies of every description, required for the use of the army, have to be landed at the decaying wharves, and the streets are crowded with laborers, drays, horses barrels, boxes, and bales. The capacity of the harbor has also been developed. Steamships of the largest size may discharge their cargoes almost into the warehouses (if any such existed.) During the past week, several immense steamers have passed up the river, and moored alongside the wharves—the *Empire City*, *Ariel*, *Philadelphia*, *Oriental*, and *Roanoke*, among the number—and vessels of the tonnage of the *Atlantic* and *Vanderbilt* might, it is believed, visit the place upon an emergency.

I am sure the South Carolina rebels should be grateful to the Yankees they are so much accustomed to abuse. Finding it necessary for the public good that Charleston harbor should be closed, we ingeniously accomplished that; and, a few days afterward, in a spirit of liberal compensation, opened the port of Beaufort, which, though not so large, is far easier of access.

There are other indications of "trade's unfeeling train" coming here to "usurp the land, and dispossess the swain." The question is already mooted among the authorities whether or not it would be good policy to throw open this port to commercial enterprise. Our necessities demand it. There are many hundred persons connected with this army whose wants are not supplied. Even the soldiers themselves feel the need of tradesmen, to whom they could give their spare cash in exchange for the little "notions" which make camp life endurable.

The sutler's business here is confined to one man, and, like every monopoly, it fails to meet the simplest requirements of the case. We want hotels, eating-houses, and the thousand other things which should furnish accommodation to a population of our number. By all means let trade here be open to competition. The sutler's business, probably, is no better nor worse than it would be in other hands, but it was outrageous from the first that the privilege of trading should have been confined to one person, whose appointment was scarcely warranted by the army regulations.

I have seen the "only white man" who remained in Beaufort after the late exodus. I mean he who was reported to be drunk, and who received Com. AMMEN, of the gunboat *Seneca*, with a hearty welcome. I have his authority for saying that the charge of intoxication was unfounded, and take pleasure in defending his reputation. His name is ALDEN S. ALLEN, and twenty-five years since he came from Falmouth, Mass., to Beaufort, where he opened a country store. He had always been a Union man, but in common with two or three others of the same character dared not avow his sentiments. For ten years or more a feeling of hatred toward the "d—d Yankees" had been becoming more and more intense, and well-known as he was in the community he would have been persecuted beyond endurance had he offered a word in their defence. The people of Beaufort had time to prepare for the attack upon Port Royal, and to remove their most valuable property. A week before the arrival of the fleet Gen. DRAYTON received a dispatch from Virginia informing him that the demonstration would be made here, and most of the ladies took their departure before the day of the bombardment, although many remained until the very last moment. After the forts had been taken the troops from Bay Point made their way to Beaufort in a sorry plight. They came straggling into the town, after traveling all night, floundering through the marshes, and forcing their way through thickets and brambles, to take hurried refreshments, and press on with whatever conveyance they could procure, toward Port Royal ferry. The rout he described as being as thorough as could be imagined. The negroes took possession of the town as soon as the inhabitants left, and as he had nothing to fear from the Northern people he determined to remain with his stock of goods. This was the condition of affairs until Saturday afternoon, the second day after the fight. Then the gunboat came up to the town, and soon an officer came to him and requested that he should visit Capt. AMMEN on board. He went, naturally enough feeling somewhat excited, but not with liquor. "I could walk straight and talk straight," said he, "and when a man can do that he ought not to be called drunk, even if he has taken a drink or two." On board the gunboat he took wine with the Captain, and remained there three or four hours. When he returned to his store he found that the negroes had broken it open and carried away at least $1,000 worth of goods. The rascals had also forced the doors of Mr. CHARLES WILCOX'S grocery establishment, and completely ruined his stock, worth $15,000. WILCOX is also a Massachusetts man, having come from New-Bedford about eight years ago. In the confusion, consequent upon the abandonment of the town, he shut up his store and removed his family over to the main land, intending to return, but for some reason he failed to make his appearance.

Mr. ALLEN had no family; he is a bachelor, sixty-five years of age, and learning from Capt. AMMEN that Beaufort probably would be occupied next day by our troops, he was rejoiced at the prospect of saving his property. Sunday and a portion of Monday passed however, and there was no sign of the occupation. Meantime, the negroes were becoming more and more obstreperous, and the Secession scouts also made their appearance in town. Fearing that he might become an object of suspicion by remaining in the place longer, and knowing that his life would be forfeited in such a case, he finally left the town, carrying away the most valuable part of his stock, and concealing himself with some friendly negroes on the outskirts of the island. He remained there until he was assured that our troops had really taken possession of Beaufort, when he returned, and saw Gen. STEVENS, who permitted him to bring his goods back and resume his business. He is now proprietor of the only store in the place, but he has neither the assortment nor the quantity of goods for which he could find customers. He regrets that his money is all in Charleston bank bills, which are of no more value at the North than shinplasters, or otherwise. He should send for a schooner-load of goods. He said that the banks of Charleston had not furnished gold or silver for the past year, and shinplasters were the only means of making change.

Yesterday there was a brigade drill of a portion of Gen. STEVENS' command at a point, about seven miles from Beaufort. Two regiments made a march of fourteen miles for the purpose of engaging in it. The evolutions were admirably performed, and it is wonderful how the men have retained their proficiency, when of late so little time has been afforded them for drill.

I accompanied the regiment on the march, and after the drill, went on to Port Royal ferry three miles beyond. Our pickets stationed there are within easy hail of those of the enemy, and sometimes they engage in conversation. Some of the Seventy-ninth New-York Regiment were on duty here at the time of my visit. The sergeant informed me that a few days ago a rebel soldier hailed one of our men, and inquired if he would exchange whisky for tobacco, or a New-York paper for a Charleston *Mercury*. Then they entered into a general conversation in which the rebel said that on their side they had agreed not to shoot at the pickets, which they considered to be nothing less than murder, if we would exersise similar forbearance. He was assured that such an arrangement met the hearty acquiescence of our officers. The Southerner then pointed to the formidable battery which they had been permitted to erect directly in front of our post, not more than a quarter of a mile distant, and asked our man why we did not come over and take it, tauntingly adding, you outnumber us two to one, but "1,500 Southerners are equal to 3,000 such fellows as you." The quiet reply was made that we had not quite finished eating the turkeys, sheep, corn and other good things which had been left in the flight from Hilton Head and Bay Point, but after the excellent living over here was exhausted we would pay them a visit on the main. And so in this spirit of brag these interviews are generally conducted.

I counted three guns mounted on the rebel works, and with a glass the gunners could be distinctly seen at drill. Without that aid the laborers—soldiers and negroes—could be observed at work in the intrenchments. It seemed very strange to me that these defences should be thrown up, so close to our lines, and no effort be made to prevent it; but I am told that the place is of no importance, and should we ever desire to cross over to the main land, there are many other points which could be selected for the passage, without making it necessary to rush into the face of batteries.

Gen. STEVENS has received reliable information that the enemy has made large additions to the number of his forces in front of us during the past week. Whether they come from the army of the Potomac, or are made up of new levies is not known.

An incident showing the *animus* of a Southern dame has been related to me by one of the officers of the navy. A negro came to Beaufort, last week, as the bearer of a package from his owner, a Mrs. CHISHOLM, to Commander BANKHEAD, of the gunboat *Pembina*. The Commander, it is well known, has been very active with his vessel, performing many important services in the conduct of the war. Some of these services have been extremely painful, as it has been necessary for him to take up arms against personal friends, and even relatives, living in this vicinity. But he has not flinched from his unpleasant duty. Among his acquaintances was a Mrs. CHISHOLM, wife of a planter, who has expressed her appreciation of his patriotism by sending him—what?—a set of expensive *coffin-handles!* with the intimation that the box they were intended to adorn was ready for his reception, as soon as he should come that way. In order to play this singular joke, the fair rebel sacrificed one of her trusty slaves, who, finding himself among the Yankees, is contented to remain with them.

Lieut.-Col. WM. H. REYNOLDS, of the First Rhode Island Artillery, has been appointed Resident Agent of the United States at Port Royal, for the collection of cotton and all other goods belonging to the rebels. He does not supersede the gentlemen who were appointed by Gen. SHERMAN to perform this duty, but simply directs their operations in this respect.

H. J. W.

OPERATIONS ON THE SOUTH CAROLINA COAST.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM FLAG-OFFICER DUPONT.

WABASH, PORT ROYAL, Dec. 24, 1861.

MY DEAR SIR. I am sure you will excuse my delay in replying to your most kind and gratifying letter. My squadron duties are arduous and my correspondence has much increased.

I left New-York fairly oppressed by what struck me as a degree of inordinate expectation on the part of the public in reference to this expedition, and even yourself congratulated me in advance. If, therefore, I have in any measure met such a craving, I ought to be deeply thankful to Him who gave us the victory.

Matters have gone on prosperingly so far as our naval operations are concerned, and I trust all will go equally well with our military brethren.

The occupation of this wonderful sheet of water, with its tributary rivers, inlets, outlets, entrances and sounds running in all directions, cutting off effectually all water communication between Savannah and Charleston, has been like driving a wedge into the flanks of the rebels between these two important cities.

I have spread my squadron to its utmost capabilities, and sigh for more gunboats; but the Department has been so kind and liberal to me that I forbear pressing it in its present emergencies, but which emergencies it is meeting with so much vigor. Let me say that your purchased ships have turned out remarkably well. I wish I had more of them. The *Bienville*, *Augusta*, *Florida*, *Adger*, *Alabama*, *Ct. Jago d. Cuba*, (not of my squadron,) are superior and very suitable ships. The *Henry Andrew* is uncommonly swift and useful. She came from Tybee roads a few days since to this anchorage by inland passage in two and a half hours. She had on a previous day communicated with my ships in St. Helena Sound by the Beaufort and Coosaw rivers in five and a half hours. The tugs are worth their weight in gold.

With renewed thanks for your kind remembrance of me, I am, my dear sir, Yours, most truly,

S. F. DUPONT.

To GEORGE D. MORGAN, Esq.

IMPORTANT FROM MISSOURI.

Capture of Jeff. Owens, Col. Jones and Fifty Bridge Burners—A Secret National Expedition, &c.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Thursday, Jan. 2.

Dispatches received at headquarters, announce the capture of the notorious JEFF. OWENS, Col. JONES, and fifty of their bridge-burning gang, near Martinsburgh, Adrian County, by Gen. SCHOFIELD, commander of the State militia, and the various guerilla bands along the North Missouri Railroad have been pretty thoroughly scattered.

Six regiments of National troops have left Otterville and Tipton for Weston, on an unknown expedition.

ST. LOUIS, Thursday, Jan. 2—P. M.

The report this morning that six regiments of Federal troops had started on a Western expedition is a mistake.

Recent developments disclose embezzlements in the County Collector's office amounting to $30,000. These frauds were committed by STEPHEN D. AXTELL, chief clerk, and extend back for a series of years.

TRIAL OF THE McINTYRE-HART BOMB.

PROVIDENCE, Thursday, Jan. 2.

A trial of the McINTYRE-HART repeating bomb was given this afternoon in the presence of Gov. SPRAGUE and Staff. Twenty-nine explosions were obtained from ten of the nine-inch shells, and the regularity, certainty and terrible efficiency of the projectile was fully demonstrated. Gov. SPRAGUE expressed unqualified admiration at the successful issue of the exhibition. The next trial will be made in Washington soon.

MOVEMENTS OF BRITISH TROOPS.

EASTPORT, Wednesday, Jan. 1.

A British transport screw steamer from Halifax passed here at 7:30 this morning, with 600 of the Sixty-second Regiment, 400 to remain at St. Andrews, and 200 to proceed to Woodstock per railroad.

A PRIZE.

The British bark *Empress*, of Hull, from New-Orleans Bar, in 30 days, has arrived at this port. She was from Rio Janeiro for New-York, as her Captain reported, and had been ordered off from Pass a l'Outre previously; was taken by the United States sloop *Vincennes* as a prize. She has a cargo of 6,500 bags coffee. She lies at the Navy-yard.

REPORTED BATTLE IN THE INDIAN TERRITORY.

From the Fort Smith, (Ark.,) Times, Dec. 15.

We learn from Major CLARK, of Texas, direct from the camp of Col. COOPER, that a battle took place on the 9th, on Bushy Creek, near the Verdigris River, about 180 miles from this place, between the forces of Col. COOPER and the enemy's under OPOTHLEYHOLO, estimated at 4,000 or 5,000. Col. COOPER had only about 1,300 men.

The enemy attacked Col. COOPER about 11 o'clock, and the fight continued all day until sundown. Col. SIMMS' Texas Regiment fought with great bravery, and the Choctaws, Chickasaws and Creeks fought like tigers. In fact, it was one of the hardest fought battles that has taken place in the country.

The enemy followed Col. COOPER several miles, and attacked him with great fury. Col. COOPER drove them back to the woods, a distance of two miles. A large number of Cherokees were with OPOTHLEYHOLO; likewise about 150 Seminoles. Col. DARR, with his men, who remained with him, fought well and did good service. The Choctaws took about 150 scalps, and the Chickasaws nearly 50. The Creeks did not scalp any, because the enemy were their own people.

From the same, Dec. 16.

We learn that Col. MCINTOSH, in command of the troops on this frontier, has ordered eight companies of Col. YOUNG'S Regiment, five companies of Col. GREER'S Regiment, and Col. WHITFIELD'S Battalion, to the assistance of Col. COOPER, against OPOTHLEYHOLO and his Jayhawking allies.

MEETING OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Discussion on the Tariff Bill, and the Public Debt—Depredations of Privateers.

The Chamber of Commerce held its regular monthly meeting yesterday afternoon. Mr. ROBERT B. MINTURN was elected Chairman of the Committee of Arbitration, in place of Mr. OPDYKE, who has resigned.

Mr. CHARLES H. MARSHALL, who was appointed at the last meeting to wait upon the President and request him to send men of war to the coast of Europe in order to protect American vessels from the attacks of privateers, read a report wherein he detailed the result of his mission. Since the burning of the *Harvey Birch* the Secretary of the Navy has dispatched one vessel to the European coast, and other vessels will be sent in a few days.

The new Tariff bill was the next subject discussed, when the Chairman said that there were now three tariff bills in existence, and he had no doubt they would affect the interests of merchants in this City considerably. Such being the case, he deemed it advisable to bring the subject before the meeting.

Mr. RICHARD LATHERS then read a lengthy paper upon the same topic, and offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

Resolved, That the Executive Committee of this Chamber be a Committee, with power to add to their number, to consider and digest a respectful memorial to Congress, asking for a speedy passage of effectual laws by which such equal taxation shall be levied in the several States, and a judicious system of excise, as to sustain the public credit, and form a stable basis for the payment, or the ultimate liquidation of the principal of the public debt.

Mr. DUNNING DUER, Mr. ROYAL PHELPS and Gen. WETMORE all spoke in favor of the above resolution, but the Chairman thinking it did not embrace all he desired when he spoke of the Tariff bill, Mr. ROYAL PHELPS offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the merchants of New-York have seen with great surprise the construction which the Secretary of the Treasury has put upon the late act of Congress in relation to an increase of duties on certain articles of merchandise, and that the Executive Committee of this Chamber be instructed to propose a remonstrance to its being made applicable to goods in hand imported prior to the passage of the law.

Mayor OPDYKE hoped that the word "surprise" would be erased, and that "regret," or some such word be substituted. Mr. PHELPS was willing to make the substitution, and after much discussion the resolution was carried.

A Committee was then appointed, on account of the weakness of our harbor defences, to inspect STEVENS' floating battery to-morrow.

RECEPTION OF CONGRESSMAN ELY.

List of Prisoners to be Released.

Hon. ALFRED ELY, lately released from a Richmond prison, where he had been confined as a prisoner of war, arrived in this City, from Washington, at 8 o'clock last evening, by way of the Camden and Amboy boat. He immediately took a carriage which was in waiting at the pier, and, accompanied by two friends, proceeded to the St. Nicholas Hotel. A deputation of the officers of the Sixty-ninth Regiment waited upon him at his rooms, where an exchange of congratulations took place.

At 10 o'clock, a band, which had been stationed in the vestibule, struck up an appropriate air, and shortly afterwards Mr. ELY appeared on the staircase, and was greeted with a round of cheers by the assemblage which filled a large space in front. After the applause had subsided, Mr. ELY spoke as follows:

MR. ELY'S REMARKS.

GENTLEMEN: In my forced sojourn in a distant city I have endeavored, through a prolonged confinement, to so conduct myself that neither my patriotism nor my patience could be called in question; and I am relieved to believe that this cordial reception is an approval of my course. I hesitate not to say that, with slight exceptions, the treatment shown me by my captors has been all that I could look for under the circumstances, and my release was attended with courtesies which I can never forget. Yet language cannot express to you the eagerness with which, in common with my fellow-prisoners in the Richmond tobacco factory, I watched "the door that looketh towards the North," and gladly caught every sympathetic message from a free Press and loyal people. Nor can I describe the joy with which I turned my back upon the rebel capital, and the flag which a misguided people would substitute for the glorious stars and stripes.

The greetings of friends are at all times grateful, but the circumstances under which we meet to-night add to the pleasure with which I receive your congratulations. I am rejoiced to again stand in the chief city of the Empire State, which has done so much to help on the great contest for the Union and the Government. Even in my imprisonment I have been constantly reminded of its noble contributions to the army marshaled in defence of the old flag. My prison hours have been relieved of much of their tedium by the social visits of brave soldiers from New-York. COREORAN, who led the intrepid Sixty-ninth to noble deeds at Manassas, went with me to Richmond, and there remained for two months or more, until placed in close confinement at Charleston. Wood, of your sister City of Brooklyn, was my companion until doomed to a felon's cell, to be held, like COREORAN, subject to the treatment awarded the rebel pirates.

To the patient and heroic endurance of these distinguished officers, and that of all the captives from the Empire State, as well as those from other parts of the Union, I bear cheerful testimony. We have a right to glory in the conduct of these gallant men. On the field and in the dungeon, they have never failed to manifest a spirit of true and undaunted patriotism, worthy the warmest admiration. Let us remember them in their lonely cells, and hope that at the earliest moment consistent with the public interest they may be restored to their homes and friends. Gentlemen, I am persuaded that the vast army committed to the trusty hands of McCLELLAN has much to do. If I have learned anything in the South, it is that we fight a people terribly in earnest. The cry of Palafox at Saragossa, "War to the knife," is still their cry. Firm in the belief that we seek their subjugation, they have waxed desperate, and neither life nor treasure will be spared to prevent the advance of our arms. A rebellion so extensive and zealous as that which now reigns throughout the South can only be overcome by the best and strongest efforts of a united North. We must, as one man, shoulder to shoulder, heart to heart, forgetful of party, of prejudice, of all but country—join with the Government in its exertions for the preservation of the Republic. So only may we, by God's good help, restore the National banner whence it has been rudely torn, and by conquest win enduring peace, and establish our power to cope with traitors at home, as successfully as we have with foes from abroad.

Mr. ELY was frequently interrupted by cheers.

Quartermaster C. J. MURPHY, of the New-York Thirty-eighth, who escaped from Richmond, has in connection with Mr. ELY, procured the consent of the Government to the exchange of the following Union prisoners in Richmond:

Lt. Connolly, N. Y. 69th.	Capt. Sprague, Ohio 7th.
Lieut. Booth, Wis. Reg.	Capt. McQuade, N. Y. 38th.
Lt. Campbell, N. Y. 79th.	Capt. Hunt. ———
Lt. Dempsey, N. Y. 2d.	Lieut. Hart, Indiana 20th.
Lt. Hamblin, N. Y. 38th.	Capt. Griffin, N. Y. 8th.
Capt. Manson, N. Y. 79th.	Capt. Shillinglaw, N. Y. 79th.

Last night, intelligence was received of the death of Capt. MCQUADE. Efforts are being made to have Lieut. IRWIN, of the New-York Second, substituted in his place.

The remainder of the list will probably reach home within ten days. Quartermaster MURPHY, who has been indefatigable in his efforts to procure their release, proceeds to Washington, to-morrow, to meet them.

Board of Councilmen.

ONE MORE MEETING—DAMAGES FOR ELECTION RIOT—BUNK-ROOM FOR FIREMEN.

The Board of Councilmen held their regular meeting yesterday P. M., but as the other Board has adjourned *sine die* no new business could be transacted, the attention of members being directed solely to papers sent from the other Board for concurrence. A large lobby was in attendance, but the floor of the Chamber was kept entirely free, thus avoiding much unnecessary noise and confusion. After the passage of one unimportant paper, Mr. BARNEY moved that when the Board adjourn it meet again on Saturday. Two amendments, viz.: to meet on Friday and to adjourn *sine die*, were defeated, and Mr. BARNEY'S motion was adopted. Some few reports in favor of fencing in vacant lots, flagging sidewalks, &c., were concurred in. A report in favor of paying Jas. S. Murray $132 79 for damages done to his premises by rioters on election day, Dec. 3, was concurred in. A resolution to pay $775 to H. F. Brady for engrossing resolutions complimentary to ex-Alderman Peck was lost for want of a constitutional vote. Mr. PINCKNEY moved to adjourn, which was lost, and the vote on the appropriation to Mr. Brady was reconsidered and the resolution laid over. A resolution to pay J. H. W. Cabe $175 for filling in sidewalks in Fifty-second-street was lost, but reconsidered. The report in favor of appropriating the room formerly occupied by the Superior Court (over the engine house corner of Chambers and Centre streets) as a bunk room for Hose Company No. 28, and fitting it up at an expense of $200, was concurred in. The Board then adjourned until Saturday at 5 P. M.

Comptroller's Office—Appointments and Promotions.

The following promotions and appointments have been made in the Comptroller's office: WM. H. FIELD, general clerk, promoted to be first Auditor, at a salary of $1,500; LEWIS J. KIRK, Superintendent of Market Rents and Fees, salary $2,500, *vice* WM. S. DAVIDSON, removed; JOHN RICKFORD Collector of Market Rents, &c., *vice* KIRK, promoted; MORRIS FRIEDSAM, general clerk, salary $1,000; ALLAN COOPER, general clerk, *vice* W. H. FIELD, promoted. Mr. COOPER has been long employed as an extra clerk, but has now been fixed permanently.

GENERAL CITY NEWS.

PRESENTATION OF A SWORD, SASH AND BELT.—On New-Year's Day, Lieut. GEO. BISHOP, of the Eagle Brigade, was presented with a handsome sword, sash and belt, by the employes of Mr. W. E. BROCKWAY, of East Eleventh-street. Mr. PETER MCNALLY made the presentation on behalf of his co-laborers, and in so doing spoke at some length, wishing the Lieutenant every success, and hoping that at the end of the war he would return at least a Colonel, if not a Brigadier General. In response Lieutenant BISHOP thanked the donors most warmly, and assured them that whatever he could do to crush this vile rebellion would be done most willingly, and that the bright blade with which he was presented would never be sullied with dishonor. The sword, which is a very handsome one, has the following inscription engraved on it: "Presented to Lieut. GEO. BISHOP by the employes of W. E. BROCKWAY, Esq."

THE NEW SHERIFF AND COUNTY CLERK.—Mr. JAMES LYNCH, the new Sheriff, and Mr. H. W. GENET, the newly-elected County Clerk, took formal possession of their offices on New-Year's Day. The Sheriff was received by his predecessor, and after the official preliminaries had been completed, the whole party adjourned to the basement occupied by the Deputies, where a bountiful collation was spread. Toasts and speeches occupied the attention for about an hour, when, after the interchange of mutual courtesies, the outs went out and the *ins* remained. In the County Clerk's office, Mr. GENET took possession of his office with even less formality. The oath of office was administered by Mr. CLANCY, in the presence of a few personal friends, and after mutual civilities the accession of H. W. GENET as County Clerk was *un fait accompli*. It is not probable that Mr. GENET will make any removals at present.

CHANGES IN THE CORONER'S OFFICE.—The newly elected Coroners entered upon the duties of their office on Wednesday. All of the old Corners have gone out of office, their places being filled by the following named gentlemen: Dr. JAMES W. RANNEY, Dr. LOUIS NAUMANN, Mr. EDWARD COLLIN, and Mr. JOHN WILDEY. Two of the former Deputy Coroners will continue to discharge their duties in that office viz., Dr. GEORGE W. BOUTON and Dr. WOOSTER BEACH Jr. The other two Deputies are medical gentlemen, though hitherto unknown in connection with the Coroners' Office. The gentlemanly and courteous clerk, Mr. PARISE, will also continue to discharge the duties which he has performed with so much credit to himself for many years.

IRISH BRIGADE—Recruiting for the First, Third and Fourth Regiments and the battalion of artillery of the Irish Brigade, of this Brigade, now in the Army of the Potomac, in Gen. SUMNER'S Division, has been going on successfully, and a reinforcement of 100 men, under the command of Capts. NEAGLE, of the Fourth, and DONOVAN, of the Fifth, will leave this City this afternoon, at 4 P. M., to join their respective regiments. All men enlisted by these officers, or belonging to the Brigade, are to report themselves at 12 M. to-day, at the Park Barracks, otherwise they will be reported as deserters, and proceeded against accordingly.

THE SHOOTING AFFRAY AT HARLEM—DEATH OF THE VICTIM.—OWEN PHELAN, who was shot in an affray with JAMES WALL, on Tuesday night last, at a public-house in Harlem, (an account of which was published on Wednesday), died at an early hour last evening. Coroner HANNEY made an *ante-mortem* examination of the unfortunate man yesterday morning. His statement coincided with the account which we have already given. An inquest will be held to-day, at the Bellevue Hospital.

ANOTHER SHOOTING AFFRAY.—On Wednesday night, an affray occurred at a dance-house, No. 86 James-street, kept by a man named FREDERICK LOWERE. During the height of the quarrel, the proprietor turned off the gas, and discharged the contents of a pistol among the crowd. The shot took effect in the head of THOMAS RYAN, who was the manager of the establishment. LOWERE was arrested by officer DAVIS. RYAN was conveyed, as soon as possible, to the New-York Hospital, where he was pronounced by the attending surgeon to be in a very critical situation.

"ARTEMUS WARD'S" LECTURE.—At Clinton Hall, last night Mr. CHAS. T. BROWNE repeated his celebrated lecture on "The Children in the Wood." It is impossible to resist the contagion of laughter which this lecture invariably causes. The hall was filled to overflowing, and the lecture was, in every respect, a success.

THE DEAF MUTES' BENEFIT.—Mr. HERRMANN'S exhibition in aid of St. Ann's Church for deaf mutes takes place this evening at Niblo's. The deaf mutes having been invited to be present, will receive tickets from their rector, at the door.

SERENADE TO ALDERMAN DAYTON.—Last evening Alderman DAYTON was serenaded by a number of his political and personal friends at his residence, near the corner of Twenty-fourth-street and Tenth-avenue.

A Man Fatally Stabbed.

SERIOUS AFFRAY IN WEST HOUSTON-STREET.—About 4 o'clock A. M., yesterday, (Wednesday,) a man named ANDREW J. FOWLER became involved in an affray at a house of ill repute at No. 80 West Houston-street. During the quarrel, JACKSON drew a knife, which was soon taken from him by force, and he was immediately stabbed in the head by one of the two persons who were in the room at the time. The Police of the Eighth Precinct were soon on hand, and arrested the parties engaged in the quarrel, viz., JULIA SHERWOOD, CHARLES GOLDEN, and a man known as "Bouquet Billy." The wounded man was conveyed to the New-York Hospital, where he died at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The accused parties are detained at the Eighth Precinct Station-house to await the result of the inquest. Coroner WILDEY will investigate the case this afternoon, when it is believed the party who gave the fatal stab will be ascertained.

Arrivals in the City.

Gov. Buckingham, of Connecticut; J. Wiley Edmonds, of Boston; Senator Harris, of Albany; Hon. W. W. Welch, of Connecticut; Capt. C. Nelson, of Philadelphia; A. Van Vechten, of Albany; Capt. Ringgold, of the *Sabine*; Capt. Elliston, of the *Richmond*, and Lieut. Pattison, of the U. S. Navy, are at the Astor House.

Senator Wilkinson, of Minnesota; Hon. Erastus Corning, of Albany; Hon. E. B. Washburn, and Hon. H. L. Dawes, of Massachusetts; Dr. Beatty, of Toronto; J. J. Penniman, of the U. S. Navy; R. S. Wood, of Bermuda, and S. P. Ferris, and F. H. Montgomery, of the U. S. Army, are at the Saint Nicholas Hotel.

Hon. F. E. Woodbridge and Jay Gould, of Vermont; E. N. Fairchild, of New-York; C. P. Hemenway and Alof Page, of Valparaiso, Chili, are at the Everett House.

Capt. Ramsey, U. S. A.; Lieut. Nathaniel Green, U. S. N.; Alfred Sajouchérle, Jose M. Raminez and B. Ariosa, of Cuba, are at the New-York Hotel.

Col. E. O'Conner, of Washington; Joseph Heco, of Japan; J. T. Whistler, of West Point; C. P. Hatch, of Boston; S. A. Whitney, of New-Jersey, and Col. Fouke, of Illinois, are at the Metropolitan Hotel.

Judge Sherman, of Newburgh; Lieut. R.B. Beale, of the United States Navy; H. N. Bigelow, of Webster; James H. Weeks, of Boston; S. H. Wagner, from Pennsylvania; Col. Williams, of the United States Army, and G. G. Pettibone, of Kentucky, are at the Fifth-avenue Hotel.

Dr. J. W. Hencock, of Buffalo; T. W. Gray, of Boston, and Wm. Hoge, of Tarrytown, are at the Brevoort House.

WINTER GARDEN.—To-night, Mrs. BARNEY WILLIAMS takes her farewell benefit, being the last night of this popular favorite but one, when will be presented an extraordinary bill, of no less than three pieces, in which Mr. and Mrs. WILLIAMS will appear.

New-Hampshire Republican State Convention.

CONCORD, N. H., Wednesday, Jan. 1.

The New-Hampshire Republican State Convention to-day nominated Gov. BERRY for reëlection.

Dr. CROSBY, of Hanover, Democrat, received the nomination for Railroad Commissioner.

Resolutions were adopted sustaining the Government in prosecuting the war; indorsing the National Administration; demanding strict economy; indorsing the State authorities; thanking the volunteers for their devotion, and promising to support the candidates nominated without regard to party issues.

Marine Disaster.

BOSTON, Thursday, Jan. 2.

Brig *Arabell*, from Aux Cayes for Boston, is ashore on Long Point, Provincetown. She will come off.

NEWS FROM SAN FRANCISCO.

Great Damage Done by the Freshets—More Gold on the way to New-York.

SAN FRANCISCO, Wednesday, Jan. 1.

The stormy weather has interrupted telegraphic communication within the State and over the Sierra Nevada since the 24th ult. The floods here have been renewed to a great extent throughout the Valley and a portion of the State. Sacramento and Stockton have been partially overflooded again, without, however, much damage. Business with the interior is suspended.

More property has been destroyed in the State by this freshet than by all the freshets heretofore since the country has been settled by Americans.

The weather is pleasant to-day.

The steamer *Golden Age* sailed for Panama, with 100 passengers and $590,000 in treasure for New-York, and $170,000 for England.

Judge HAGER, yesterday, issued an injunction staying the sale of the Broderick estate, until the question of the forgery of Mr. BRODERICK'S will is investigated.

Arrived, on the 26th ult., steamer *Uncle Sam*, from Panama; 29th, ship *R. B. Forbes*, from Boston; bark *Zephyr*, from New-York; 30th, ship *Red Gauntlet*, from New-York. Sailed, 29th, ship *Euterpe*, for New-York; *Nonpareil*, for Falmouth.

The Massachusetts Legislature.

BOSTON, Wednesday, Jan. 1.

The Massachusetts Legislature organized today. The Senate elected Ex-Gov. CLIFFORD President. The House was called to order by Hon. CALEB CUSHING, who made an eloquent and patriotic speech. A. H. BULLOCK was chosen Speaker of the House, and WM. S. ROBINSON Clerk.

The Maine Legislature.

AUGUSTA, Maine, Thursday, Jan. 2.

The Maine Legislature organized to-day. J. G. BLAINE, of Augusta, was reëlected Speaker of the House; and J. H. GOODNOW was reëlected President of the Senate.

(Advertisement.)

"CENTRAL PARK SKATE EMPORIUM."—Skates from 25 cents to $25. Everything in the skating line (except ponds) to suit all ages, sexes, tastes and purses. Parlor skates. We make a specialty of skates. CONOVER & WALKER, No. 474 Broadway.

Passengers Arrived.

In steamship Columbia, from Havana—M. Baird, W. A. Duff, N. Certero, L. Picot, W. H. Sargent, Juan Rey, J. M. Wilcox, T. Jaurevin, A. P. Pillot, Jr., E. Perotina, B. Jariosa, J. R. O. Farrill, C. Mayer, M. Johnston, F. D. A. Silva, Isaac Nathan, A. Van Praag and lady, Miss A. Williams, Dr. J. W. Stone, C. Caturla, N. Kelly, J. Williams, B. B. Wandergreft and lady, G. Willett, M. Castellano, M. Delgado and lady, F. Wintra, L. Silva, M. Silva, R. P. De Leon, G. L. Pierce, J. Groso, B. Barrino, A. Lachos firere, P. Risalde, A. B. Morrell, R. Patrick, J. Sangoens, A. Coll, J. Aldea, P. Rodier, T. Smith, F. G. W. Passagnay, A. Shoutwilt, P. Rodier, F. Nagel, T. Mast, D. Foot, D. Tijero.

In bark Pallas, from Belize, Hond.—Mrs. Martin Klein and child, Mrs. Riechez and son, Capt. A. Tornich, lady and child.

MINIATURE ALMANAC—THIS DAY.

Sun rises..... 7 25 | Sun sets..... 4 45 | Moon sets..... 8 40

HIGH WATER—THIS DAY.

Sandy Hook. 9 59 | Gov. Island. 10 48 | Hell Gate..... 12 10

MARINE INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-YORK.....THURSDAY, Jan. 2.

Cleared.

Ships Mateska, (Aus.,) Bonetick, Antwerp, Holmboe & Co.; Hero, Colvrey, Havre, W. F. Schmidt; Warbler, (Br.,) McKinley, Liverpool. Funch, Meincke & Wendt; Georges, Lester, Bordeaux. Snow & Burgess.

Brigs Rose, (Br.,) Briggs, Queenstown, G. & J. Knox & Co.; Wm. Miles, (Br.,) Davids, Bristol, Howland & Aspinwall.

Schooners Lady Adams, Hadwin, Fall River, L. Kenny; Nil Desperandum, Story, Gloucester.

Arrived.

U. S. steam-frigate Richmond, Capt. F. B. Ellison, from Key West Dec. 10. Came home for repairs, being disabled in her machinery.

Steamship Columbia, Adams, Havana Dec. 28, at 5½ P. M., with mdse. and passengers to Spofford, Tileston & Co. Has experienced strong head winds during most of the passage.

U. S. steam transport Patapsco, Beals, Locust Point 50 hours, in ballast.

Steamer Delaware, Garten, Philadelphia and Cape May, with mdse. and passengers to F. Perkins.

Steamer Pelican, Jones, Providence, with mdse. to E. Bywater.

Steamer Petrel, Young, Providence, with mdse. to E. Bywater.

Bark Princeton, Kinsley, Demerara Dec. 5, with sugar to H. Barnes. Experienced heavy weather; been 14 ds. N. of Here ds with heavy N. W. gales; lost and split sails, lower yard carried away, started cathead, topgallant rail, &c., and sustained considerable damage to spars, rigging, &c. 30th ult., lat. 38 45, lon. 72 19, passed a Br. brig hove to under close-reefed topsails and a signal of distress set in main rigging, a large black Government screw steamer close by, and one of her boats alongside the brig; saw a number of vessels during the passage bound N., with loss of spars and sails.

Barkantine Young America, Collins, Havana, with sugar to Robert & Williams.

Brig Belle, Miller, Inagua Dec. 13, with salt to Yates, Porterfield & Co. Sld. in co. with schr. Olive Hayward, Sanders, for Boston, and spoke her on the 18th, in lat. 29, lon. 75 54. Dec. 27, Sandy Hook bearing N. by W. 55 miles, encountered a heavy gale from N. W., which blew away foretopmast-staysail, split foretopsail, mainsail and maintopsail, same time. John Atkins, seaman, of Europe, fell from the foreyard overboard, and was lost; the gale lasted 4 ds., during which time she was hove to under balance-reefed mainsail.

Brig Nautilus, Seffen, Rio Janeiro Nov. 1, via St. Thomas Dec. 18, with coffee to W. F. Schmidt & Co. Dec. 35, lat. 39, lon. 72, passed a ship with a black ball in her foretop